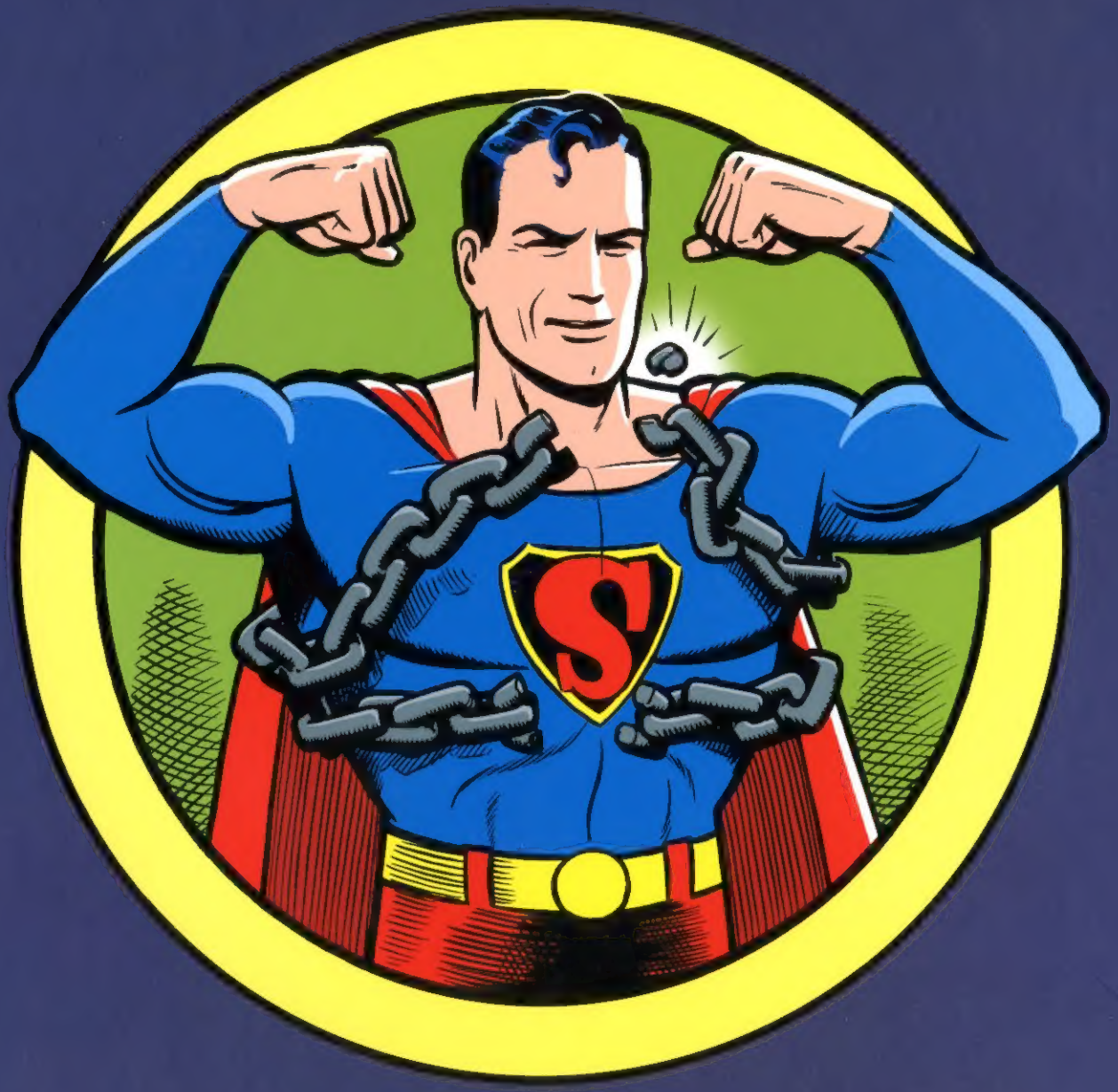
SUPERMAN:
The DAILIES
1939-1942
POPLASKI

SUPERMAN: THE DAILIES

1939 to 1942

STERLING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SUPERMAN: THE DAILIES

1939 to 1942

STERLING

SUPER HEROES

$20.00 U.S.
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Thrill to the Early Adventures of the Man of Steel!

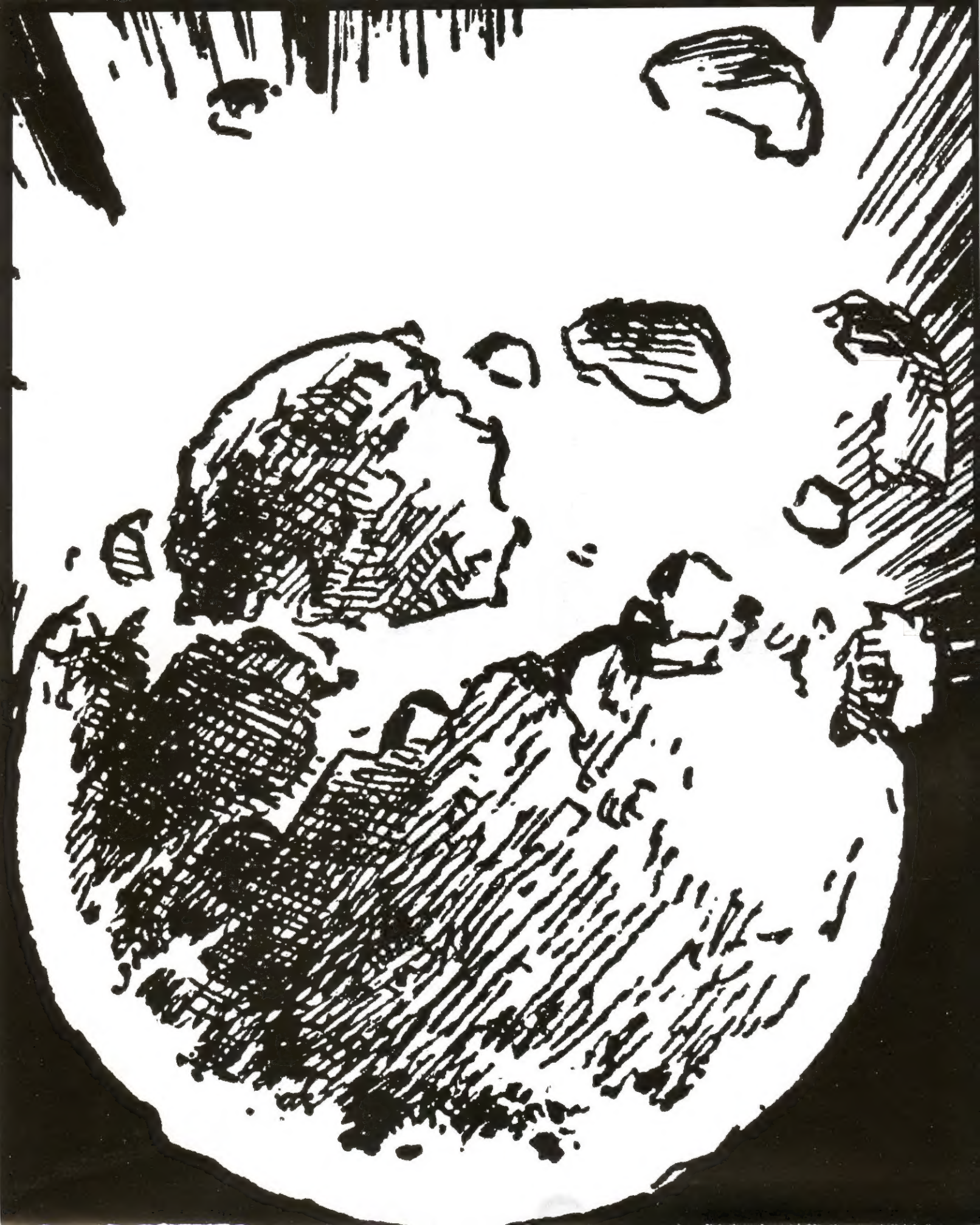
Beginning in 1939, Superman reigned as the leading hero of both comic books and newspaper comic strips. These formative stories star a Man of Steel who boldly tackles the social injustices of his day.

This deluxe edition collects the first three years of the classic Superman comic strips as written and illustrated by the Man of Steel's creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster.

Critical elements in the Superman mythos were introduced in the strips in this volume, which originally appeared from 1939 to 1942. Inside this book are nearly 1,000 daily newspaper strips, including the classic stories of Superman's origin along with "Clark Kent—Spy," "Superman Goes to War," "The Unknown' Strikes," and "The Hooded Saboteur."

Cover art by Peter Poplaski.

Superman TM & © DC Comics



SUPERMAN®

THE DAILIES

Strips 1-966, 1939-1942

Superman created by
Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.
New York

This book would not have been possible without the professionals who were, in one way or another, originally involved with the Superman comic strip:
Jerry Siegel, Joe Shuster, Paul Cassidy, Wayne Boring, John Sikela, Jack Schiff, Whitney Ellsworth, and Harry Donenfeld and Vincent Sullivan.

The editors would like to thank the following individuals for lending rare source material, without which this collection would not have been possible:
Mitch Itkowitz, Bill Blackbeard (Director) and the San Francisco Academy of Comic Art, Rick Norwood, Jeffrey Lindenblatt.

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Cover art by Peter Poplaski

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The publishers have endeavored to locate all writers, pencillers and inkers of the comic strips
featured in this volume; however, this information was not always readily available and the publishers apologize to
any person misidentified or not identified and invite such persons to inform the publishers of the error.

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A JOB FOR SUPERMAN

James Vance

Jerry Siegel (top) & Joe Shuster

When Paul Cassidy answered a "help wanted" advertisement in 1938, all he wanted was a way to make a few extra bucks. Money was scarce in that Depression year, and the prospect of a steady supplement to his art instructor's income was worth the gamble of a trip from Milwaukee to Cleveland.

His prospective employers turned out to be a pair of young men in their early twenties. They were running a no-frills operation—the interview took place in an apartment where one of the young men lived with his parents—but their money was real enough, and the supply of work was steady. His trip a success, Cassidy returned home with those few extra bucks secure . . . little realizing that he had just gotten in on the ground floor of comics history.

The job was "ghosting" artwork for "Slam Bradley," "Spy," "Federal Men" and "Radio Squad," serialized stories created for the infant comic book field. His new employers were Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, an ambitious writer-artist team who had been contributing features to such titles as *More Fun, Detective,* and *Adventure Comics* for three years. By 1938, it had become clear that Shuster needed some help in the art department, and so they took out the ad which brought Paul Cassidy to the Shuster family home.

As it turned out, the ambitious young Clevelanders were going to need all the help they could get, for another of their creations had just debuted in the first issue of *Action Comics* (cover-dated June 1938, the same month as Cassidy's interview). Siegel and Shuster were optimistic about the new feature, but they had no idea just how busy they were about to become. No one could have predicted the colossal success of Superman.

Only a year later, when the strips reprinted in this volume first appeared in daily newspapers, the Man of Steel had already captured the public's imagination. Simply by virtue of appearing in comic books (and spawning a succession of imitators that continues to the present day), Superman had put that struggling industry on the map. Within another two years, he would be a star of radio and silver screen, and a merchandising bonanza—but more than any other incarnation, it was as a newspaper strip that Superman fulfilled his creators' dreams of success.

The appeal may be lost on younger readers these days, but there was a time when newspaper syndication was the Big Time for adventure cartoonists. Until Superman came along, imaginative action heroes like Flash Gordon, The Phantom, and Buck Rogers had few peers outside of the daily paper. It was the logical place to find a Man of Steel.

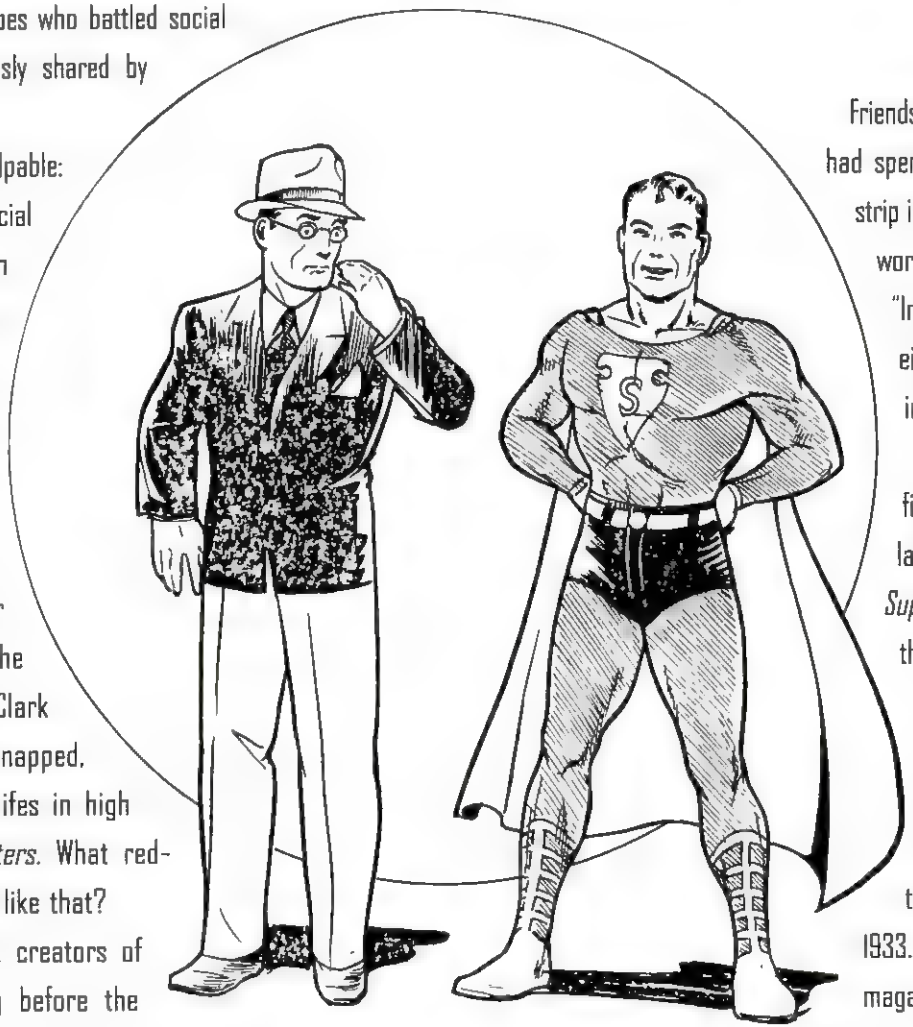
It was also a respectable place. "The media" have taken their lumps in recent years, treated with contempt by high-placed scoundrels trying to cover their own moral lapses by tarnishing the images of the agencies that report them—but in 1939, the

press was respected by the public and feared by the corrupt. Decades before Woodward and Bernstein brought the notion back into vogue with their exposure of the Watergate scandal, journalists were seen as heroes who battled social injustice—a conviction and a concern obviously shared by Siegel and Shuster.

Their enthusiasm was clear and nearly palpable: not only was the early Superman the ultimate social reformer, he was also a reporter. In a day when radio, movies, and the printed page were virtually overrun by fearless fictional journalists, the nation's children knew that the most heroic reporters of them all were Clark Kent and Lois Lane.

To be sure, it was Kent's exploits as the last Son of Krypton that gave the stories their high-voltage excitement—but even when the Man of Steel wasn't around, it seemed that Clark and Lois were forever being threatened, kidnapped, and nearly murdered by gangsters and lowlifes in high places . . . *just because they were reporters.* What red-blooded American kid could resist a lifestyle like that?

It was an enthusiasm that the youthful creators of Superman shared with their readers. Long before the famous costume was designed, even before the Kryptonian origin was conceived, one fact was already firm in the mind of writer Jerry Siegel: Superman would also be known as Clark Kent, reporter. In the years leading up to the feature's debut in *Action Comics,* Siegel and Shuster occasionally flirted with the notion of submitting their creation to the fledgling comic book industry—but both were firmly convinced that the proper home for Superman was in the pages of the nation's newspapers.



CLARK KENT SUPERMAN

ONE AND SAME!

Friends since their high school days, Siegel and Shuster had spent the Depression decade trying to sell comic strip ideas to newspaper syndicates. Typical apprentice work, "Reggie Van Twerp," "Goober, The Mighty," "Interplanetary Police," and other concepts were either overly ambitious or too reflective of their inspirations, and were rejected.

However, despite its roots in such science fiction novels as Philip Wylie's *Gladiator* and, later, John W. Campbell's *The Mightiest Machine, Superman* was an original; and though it seemed that he couldn't sell it to save his life, Siegel never lost faith in the power of the concept.

It isn't generally known that before embarking on their legendary string of rejections, Siegel and Shuster actually put together a comic book version of *Superman* in 1933. That was the year they saw the debut of the magazines traditionally called the first true comic books: *Funnies on Parade, Famous Funnies,* and *Century of Comics,* pioneer publications that offered reprinted adventures of Joe Palooka, Mutt and Jeff, and other newspaper characters.

And then there was *Detective Dan,* which managed to be a true curiosity in a field that had only just come into being. *Detective Dan* measured 9 1/2 by 12 inches while the competition was a handier 7 1/2 by 10 inches, and offered thirty-six black and white

pages, as opposed to the brightly colored interiors of *Famous Funnies* and company. What made it a true anomaly in the field, though, was the fact that its contents had never been seen before. *Detective Dan*, featuring the adventures of a plainclothesman who bore a suspicious resemblance to Dick Tracy, was the first comic book to offer original material.

Siegel and Shuster sold *Detective Dan*'s publisher, Humor Publishing Company, on the idea of bringing out a comic book devoted to their fantastic brainchild. Titled *The Superman* and featuring the exploits of a physical marvel who performed his amazing feats clad in slacks and a T-shirt, the entire comic book was drawn and submitted—but at the last minute, Humor Publishing backed out of the arrangement. *Detective Dan* hadn't sold well, and the publisher was too smart to lose more money by printing anything as commercially dubious as a comic book about a superhero.

It's possible that this 1933 *Superman* might have made the same kind of history as the version that finally saw the light of day in 1938; it's more likely, however, that neither the tiny comic book market nor the talents of Siegel and Shuster were sufficiently developed for the same kind of lightning to have struck five years earlier. Had the 1933 version seen print, it might have become nothing more than a small footnote in the history of publishing, and the comic book field might have developed in an entirely different direction than it has since the appearance of *Action Comics* no. 1.

At this point, it's impossible to do more than speculate on the subject, for upon receiving the rejection, a despondent Shuster tore up his original art and threw it into the fireplace. Today only the cover for that aborted version of *Superman* remains, rescued by Siegel at the last moment from fiery oblivion.

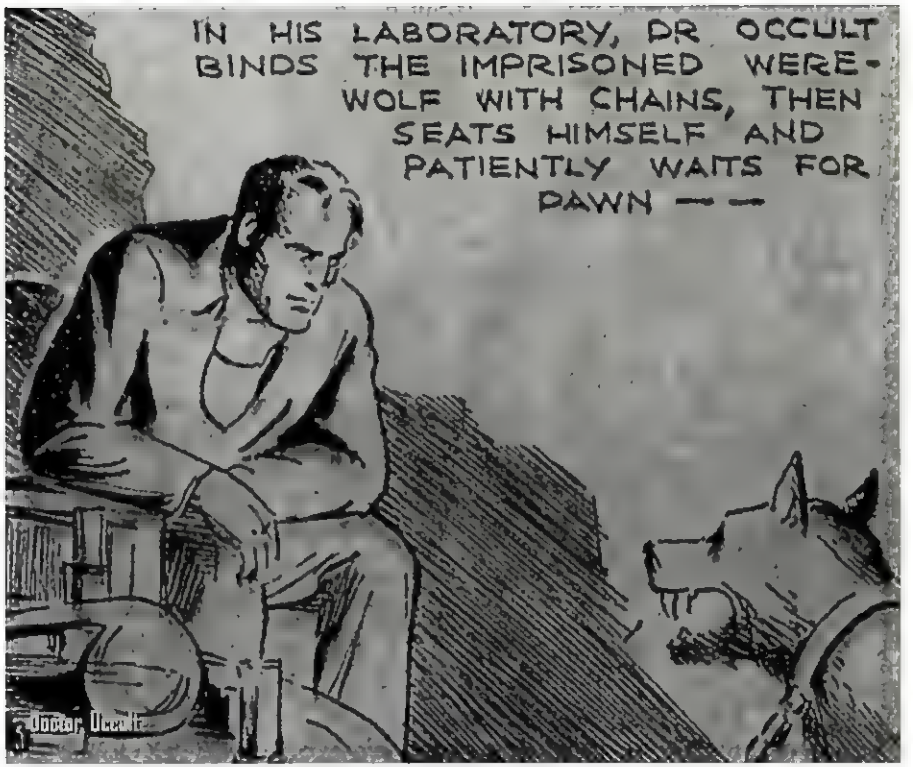
With no future for Superman in comic books, Siegel turned his ambitions again to the syndicated strip. He approached several artists as possible collaborators, but ultimately returned to Shuster. They turned out several weeks of continuity, and began the long and heartbreaking process of getting rejected by every syndicate in the business. It must have been particularly galling to receive letters advising them, as Bell Syndicate's did, that *Superman* lacked "extraordinary appeal" or, as United Features summarized, that it was "a rather immature piece of work"—especially when the clumsily written and crudely drawn knockoff *Detective Dan* was now appearing in daily newspapers under the title *Dan Dunn*.

If the young collaborators were bitter, though, it didn't slow them down. While continuing to wallpaper their bedrooms with rejections slips, they began developing other features, and some of them actually sold.

It was comic books where they finally broke into print with the pulpy supernatural adventures of "Dr. Occult," which began appearing in *New Fun* (later *More Fun Comics* no. 6, dated October 1935. That one-page strip (it would soon double in length) debuted in the same issue as another Siegel & Shuster production, the swashbuckling "Henri Duval"—which ran for only a few installments before its creators abandoned it for the more commercial uniformed cop saga "Radio Squad."

On a roll at last, the boys created "Federal Men" for the second issue of *New* (later *New Adventure*, and finally simply *Adventure) Comics*.

Superman hadn't been forgotten in this busy time, but a look at Siegel and Shuster's 1935–38 output indicates that they were beginning to cannibalize him for parts. The



adventures of brawling private eye Slam Bradley borrowed the dynamic approach the team had planned for the Man of Steel, resulting in eye-popping action sequences that opened up the comic book page as never before. Dr. Occult not only had Superman's face, he had become a superhero himself in a 1936 storyline, receiving magical powers and trading in his tuxedo and trench coat for a pair of tights and a cape. Even the adventures of Steve Carson in "Federal Men" began to reflect the fantastic milieu in which Superman would have operated; in addition to more prosaic menaces, the G-Man had to contend with a giant robot, and encountered a character named Jor-L.

Before the entire concept could be ground up like sausage, however, there was a lucky break. *Superman* had been submitted several times to the McClure Syndicate, only to be returned on each occasion. While in the syndicate offices, it came to the attention of young cartoonist Sheldon Mayer, who was assisting M. C. Gaines in the production of comic books which were printed for various publishers on presses owned by McClure. After several tries, Mayer convinced Gaines that the outlandish feature had merit.

Gaines could have tried to influence the syndicate to give the strip a try, but he was a businessman, not a philanthropist—so he pitched the project to one of his clients. Stories differ about whether the publisher Harry Donenfeld or editor Vincent Sullivan made the decision, but the bottom line is that *Superman* was sold at last . . . to the company that had been publishing Siegel and Shuster all along.

Siegel and Shuster chopped up their syndicate submission, cropping some panels, expanding others, and pasting the whole thing up into a thirteen-page story. Gaines got the printing business, and Detective Comics, Inc. (now DC Comics) was the owner of a gold mine that would spin off into other comic books and every kind of merchandise imaginable—including a newspaper strip issued by the McClure Syndicate.

Superman first appeared in the newspapers on January 16, 1939. The *Houston Chronicle* was the first subscriber, followed immediately by the *Milwaukee Journal* and the *San Antonio Express*. By the end of the year, sixty papers were carrying the feature, and there were more to come.

Back in Milwaukee, Paul Cassidy found his evenings and weekends devoted more and more to the adventures of Superman. In addition to comic book pages featuring Slam, "Spy," and the gang, he produced 149 daily installments of the *Superman* strip before his bosses asked him to move to Cleveland and work full-time. They offered him sixty-four dollars a week, an offer you couldn't refuse in 1939.

He was joined there by Wayne Boring, a young man who'd been turning out advertising art for the Norfolk *Virginia Pilot*. Boring had answered the 1938 ad, too, and had arrived in Cleveland a couple of weeks before Cassidy. Eventually, they would be joined by Leo Novak and John Sikela in the tiny office space that housed the Siegel and Shuster shop.

The shop, according to Cassidy, was "a small setup. We had a reception room and a main office; Joe worked in there, and Wayne Boring and myself.

"Wayne was a very pleasant fellow," Cassidy recalled in a 1994 interview, "and Siegel

and Shuster were polite and good company, but everybody was too busy to do much chatting or socializing.

"Joe was in every day, but he wasn't a talkative fellow. He'd spend most of his time inking in the faces and eating candy bars. So Wayne and I came in every day, got our scripts, kept our noses to the drawing board and turned in our jobs. I was doing thirteen pages a week and some of the dailies, so we couldn't have had much time off if we'd wanted it.

"I did all kinds of stuff, from pencilling to lettering to inking everything but the faces. Shuster's vision was pretty bad then, but he still inked all the faces."

Character faces, in fact, were just about the only aspect of the artwork created in the studio that Shuster kept under tight personal control. In some shops, the assistants were forced to slavishly imitate a house style, but Shuster and Siegel gave their artists much more autonomy. The result, as a perusal of this volume will reveal, was that the strips signed by Shuster were a stylistic hodgepodge—but it indicates that Siegel and Shuster hadn't let their hard-won success swell their heads.

"They were very easy to work with," said Cassidy. "They didn't interfere in any way with how we interpreted the script. It was just at the beginning then, and I'm not sure they realized in the early days what they had going on for them, that *Superman* was going to become as big a deal as it did."

Siegel, of course, didn't have a bullpen of writers, and he was still scripting all of the older features in addition to the *Superman* dailies and comic books. Wayne Boring recalled that the publishers tried to persuade Siegel to drop everything else and concentrate on *Superman*, but Siegel refused; not only did he want to continue taking advantage of the great opportunities that he had been given in the post-Depression era, they were *all* his characters, and he wanted to keep on controlling their destinies.

But Siegel was no prima donna. "Jerry did most of his writing at home," said Cassidy, "and would come in every once in a while with his scripts. The scripts would indicate what the action was and, of course, what the conversation was, but there was not too much guidance. The picturization of the script was basically up to Wayne and me. We were never asked to do anything over or change it."

With six installments a week of daily strip continuity to fill, plus well over fifty pages of comic books a month, Siegel may have wondered what he'd gotten himself into; certainly, a few of these early newspaper adventures seem to be less the product of inspiration than the need to meet deadlines.

The earliest sequences bore a marked resemblance to material that had already appeared in comic books. Here and there panels can be spotted that are redrawn versions of some used in *Action Comics*, and the earliest storylines are clearly reworkings of previously published material.

The daily strip was more than just a hack job, though. Its serial format and more leisurely pacing allowed Siegel to tell stories for which the comic book was unsuitable—and when the young writer was on a roll, he turned out continuities that were not only exciting, but heartfelt. At times, they even contributed elements to the property's basic framework that endure to this day.

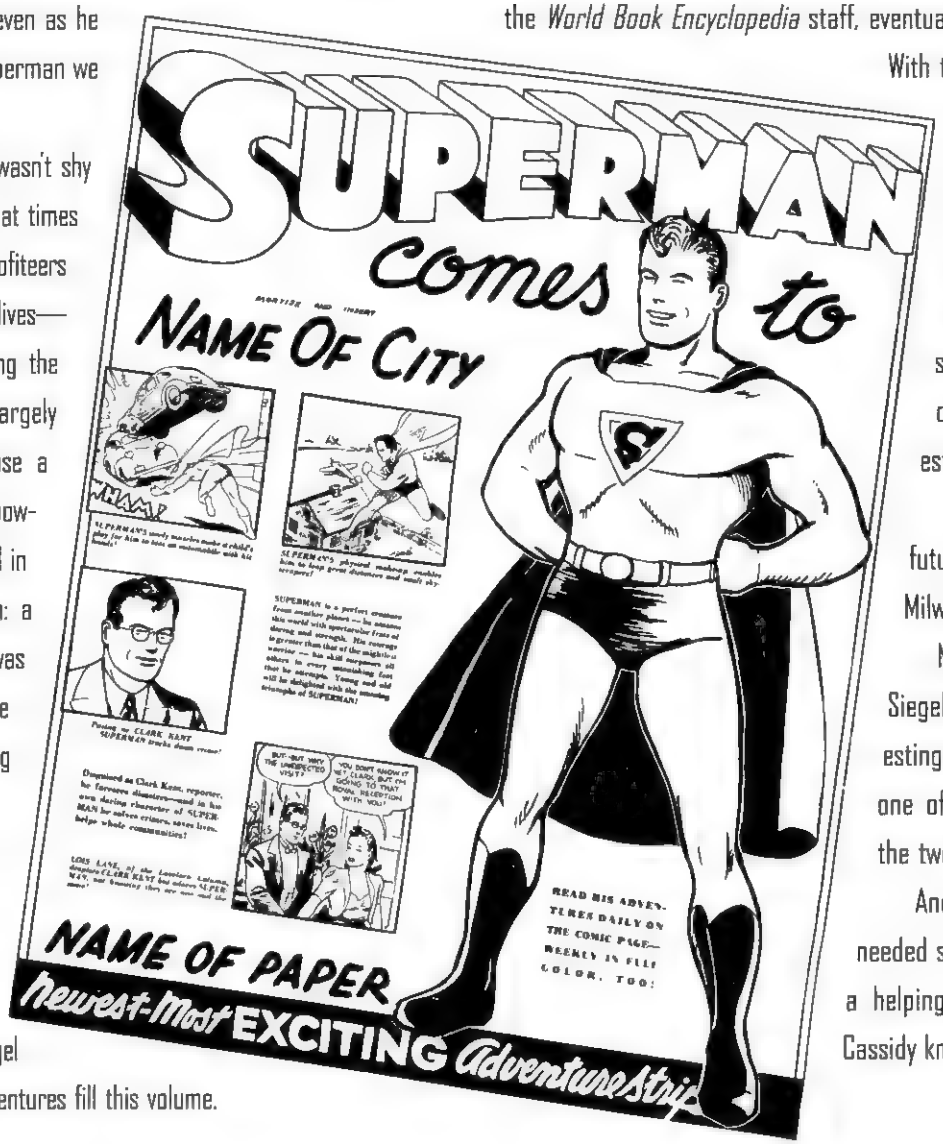
The most notable example is the strip's opening sequence, a two-week continuity which marked the first detailed account of the famous origin story. *Action Comics* no. 1 had disposed of the subject in a single panel that read, "As a distant planet was destroyed by old age, a scientist placed his infant son within a hastily devised spaceship, launching it toward Earth!" Not until the daily strip appeared did its readers learn that the scientist was named Jor-L, that our hero was born of an amazing race of supermen, and that the "distant planet" was called Krypton.

When these strips first saw print, many of the details were still being worked out. For instance, the familiar figure of *Daily Planet* editor Perry White would not appear in the comic books until late 1940, and even later than that in the daily strips. In the beginning, Clark Kent and Lois Lane reported to George Taylor of the *Daily Star* (and once, in the second issue of *Action Comics*, the *Cleveland Evening News*). Without

explanation, Taylor became the editor of the *Daily Planet* in the November 20, 1939 strip (and in the April 1940 issue of *Action Comics*). It was a minimal difference, really, but also a clear indicator to latter-day readers that even as he was beginning to take the nation by storm, the Superman we know today was still in the process of being born.

As noted, the Superman of the comic books wasn't shy about tackling social problems, nor was he subtle: at times it seemed that wife-beaters, slumlords, and war profiteers who felt his wrath were lucky to escape with their lives—and some didn't. Siegel would soon begin exploring the same themes with greater sophistication—largely because DC editor Whitney Ellsworth would impose a moral code that forbade Superman from using his powers to kill anyone, even a villain. The strips reprinted in this volume, however, reflect the earlier approach: a distinctive combination of escapist fantasy that was particularly appealing to young readers, plus vigilante social reform for their parents—America's working men and women.

Fighting graft and corruption, ending wars and reviving faded careers, rescuing orphans and princesses—all the while crashing through walls, defying bombs and bullets, and outracing natural disasters . . . *that's* the essential Superman of Siegel and Shuster, the original genuine article whose adventures fill this volume.



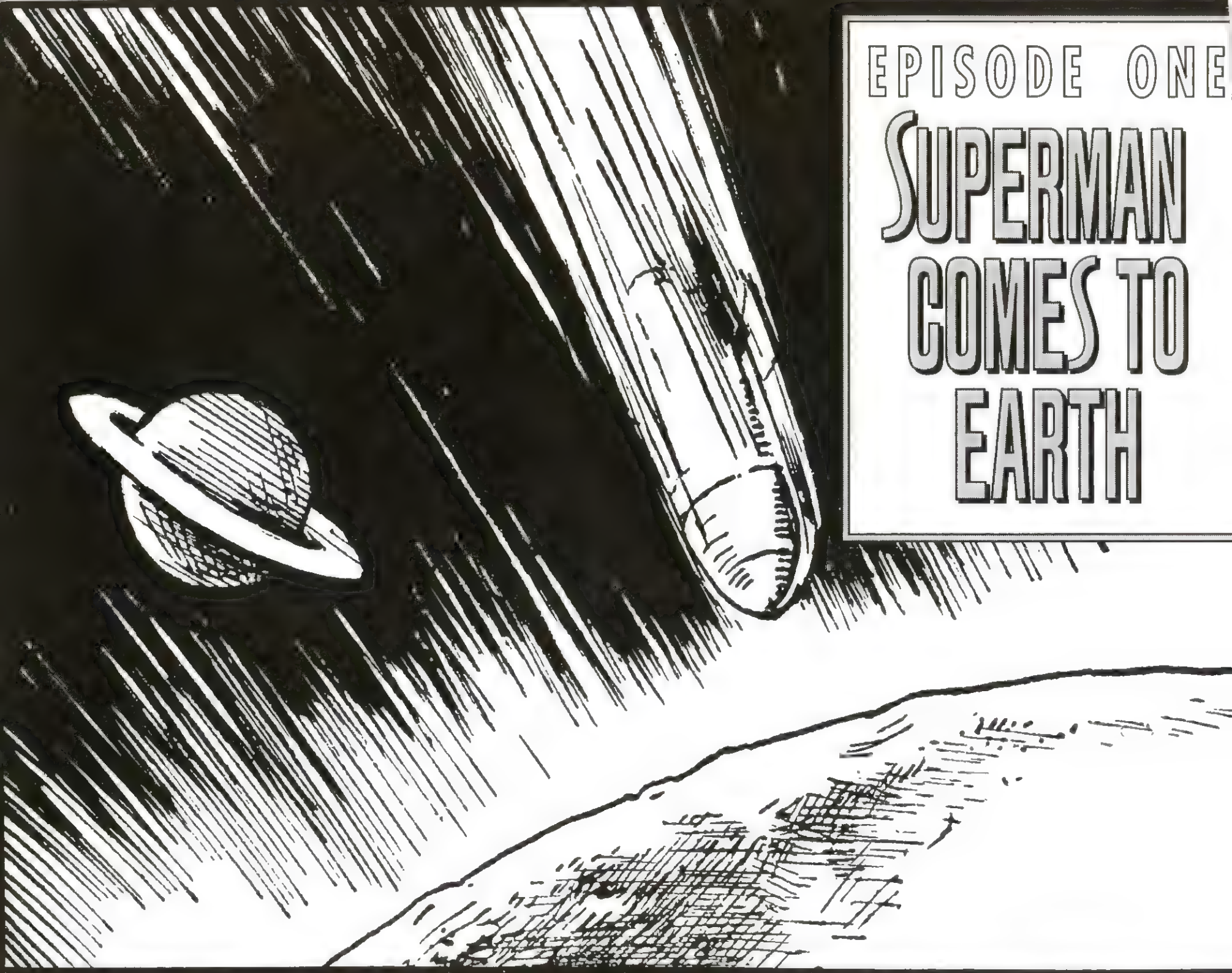
Paul Cassidy, whose work appears throughout these early sequences, remained with the shop until August 1940, when he returned to Milwaukee about the same time his colleagues were packing up and relocating the shop to New York; he continued to work through the mail until early 1942. He resumed his teaching job until 1944, when he joined the *World Book Encyclopedia* staff, eventually becoming its art director.

With the exception of a six-week continuity which he wrote for the *Red Ryder* daily strip and a one-shot comic book feature called "Hemisphere Patrol," the years with Siegel and Shuster constituted his entire comics career, a total output of 173 daily *Superman* strips and eight Sunday pages, plus 630 comics pages and seven covers—by his estimate, "about 8800 pictures or panels" in all.

"I could see that comics was not really a future for me," said Cassidy, "so I came back to Milwaukee. I haven't regretted it."

Nor did he regret the time he'd spent with Siegel and Shuster; after all, he'd met some interesting people and contributed to the creation of one of the most enduring popular characters of the twentieth centruy.

And he'd made those few extra bucks that he'd needed so badly in the first place. Having been given a helping hand by the Man of Steel himself, Paul Cassidy knew the true value of a job for Superman.


EPISODE ONE
SUPERMAN COMES TO EARTH

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Superman Is Born

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

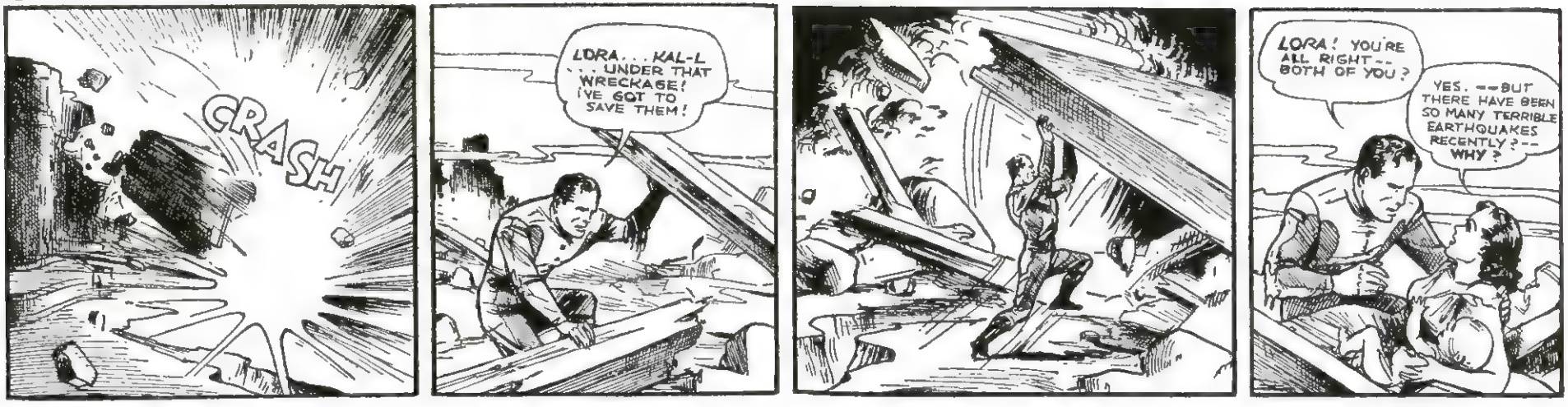
Destruction Menaces

(Copyright, 1939.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Safe!

(Copyright, 1939.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Terrible Truth!

(Copyright, 1939.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Krypton Doomed!

(Copyright, 1939)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Solution

(Copyright, 1939)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No One Believes Him

(Copyright, 1939.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Strange Ship

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Destruction!

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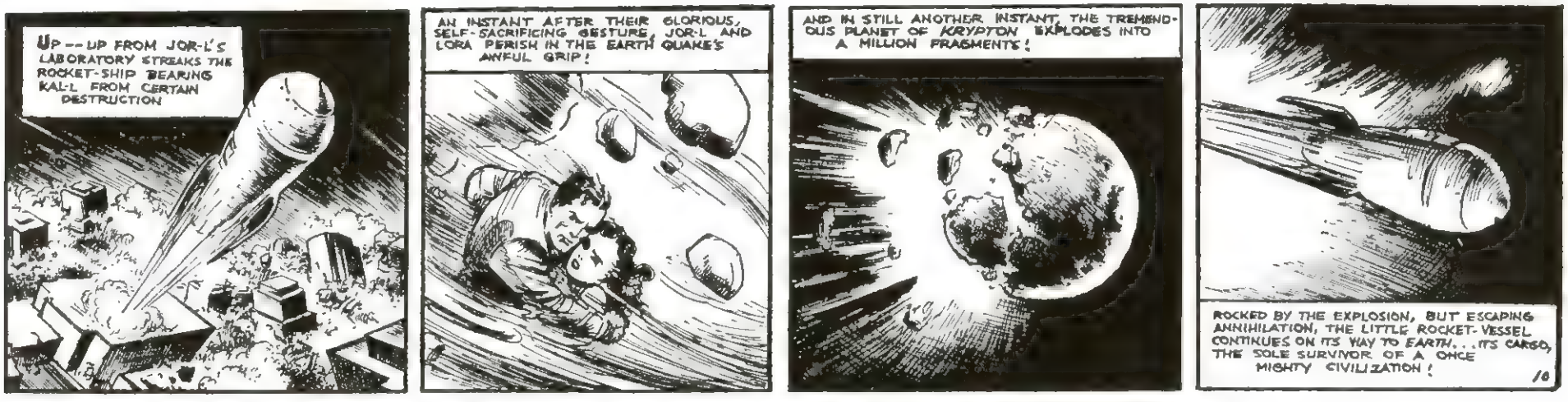
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Speeding Towards Earth

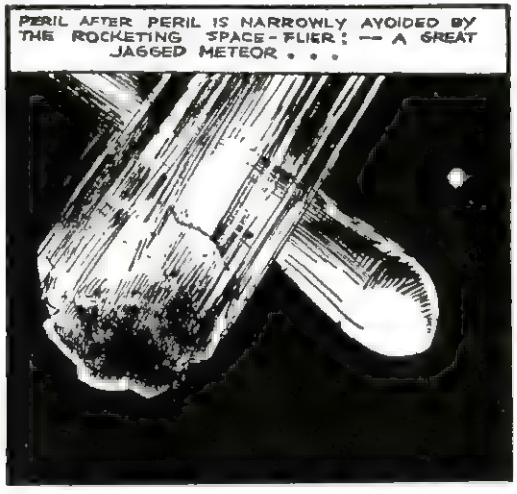
(Copyright, 1939.)

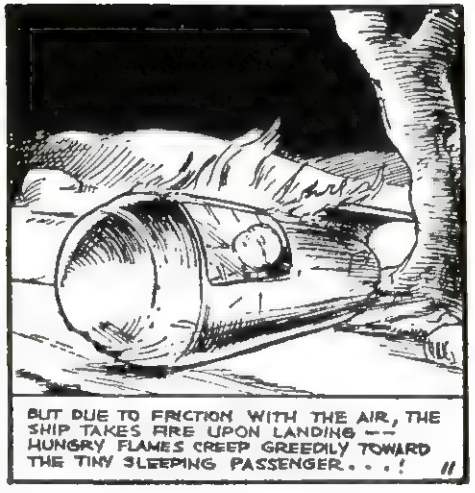


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Perilous Arrival

(Copyright, 1939.)

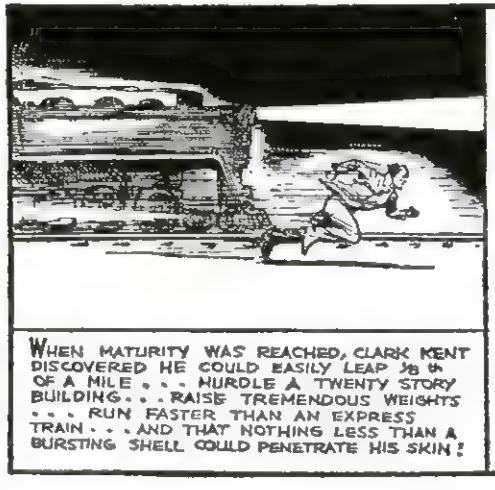




Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Superman Is Here!

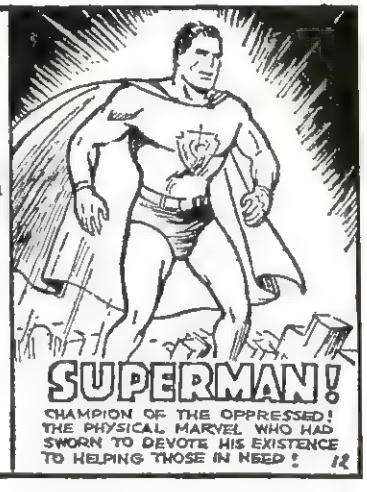
(Copyright, 1939.)



EARLY, CLARK DECIDED HE MUST TURN HIS TITANIC STRENGTH INTO CHANNELS THAT WOULD BENEFIT MANKIND

•

AND SO WAS CREATED



EPISODE TWO
WAR ON CRIME

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

To the Rescue.

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Just in Time

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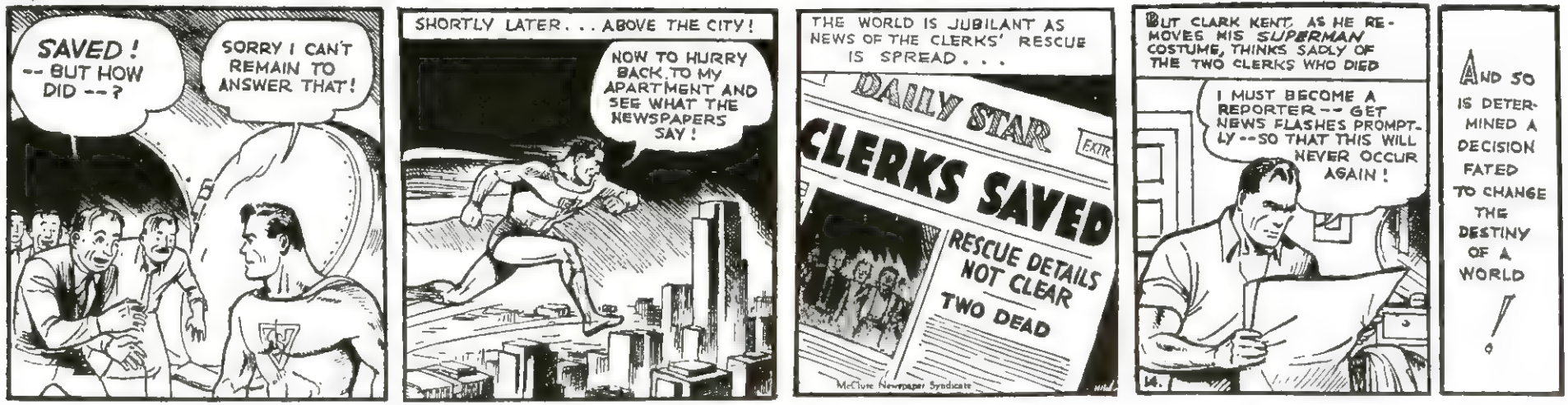

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Strange Visitor

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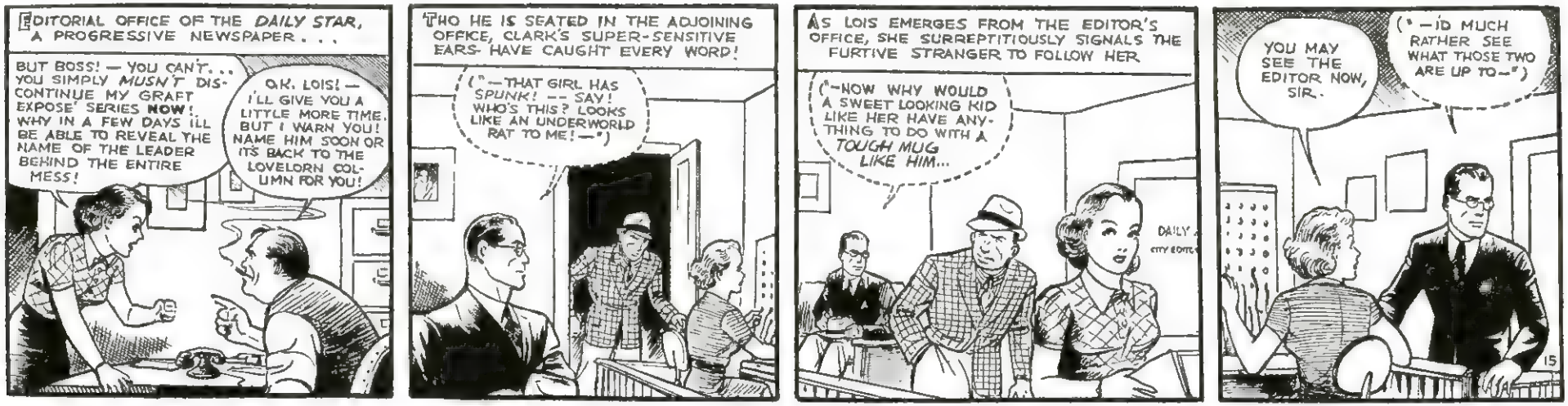


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

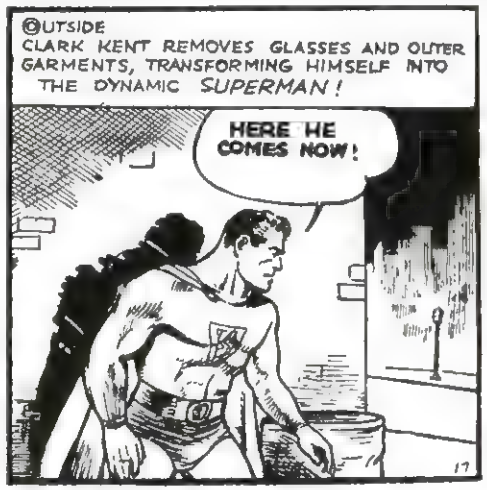
Superman Gets a Job

(Copyright, 1939.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

His First Assignment

(Copyright, 1939.)



The Third Degree

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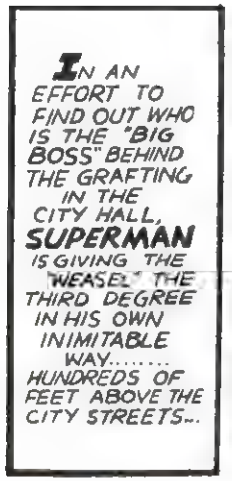

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman in Action

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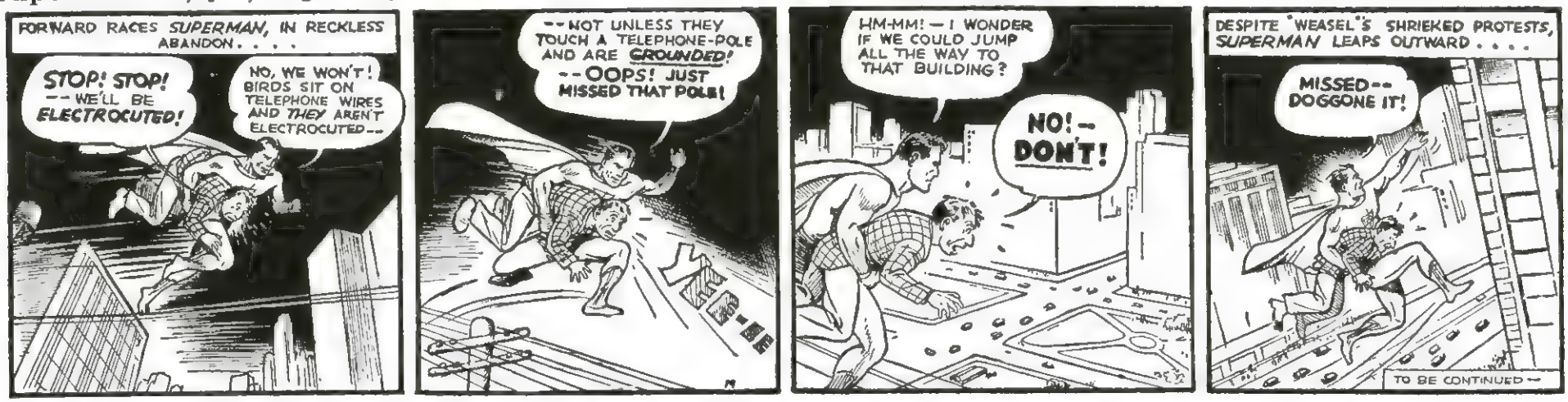

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Superman Makes Him Talk

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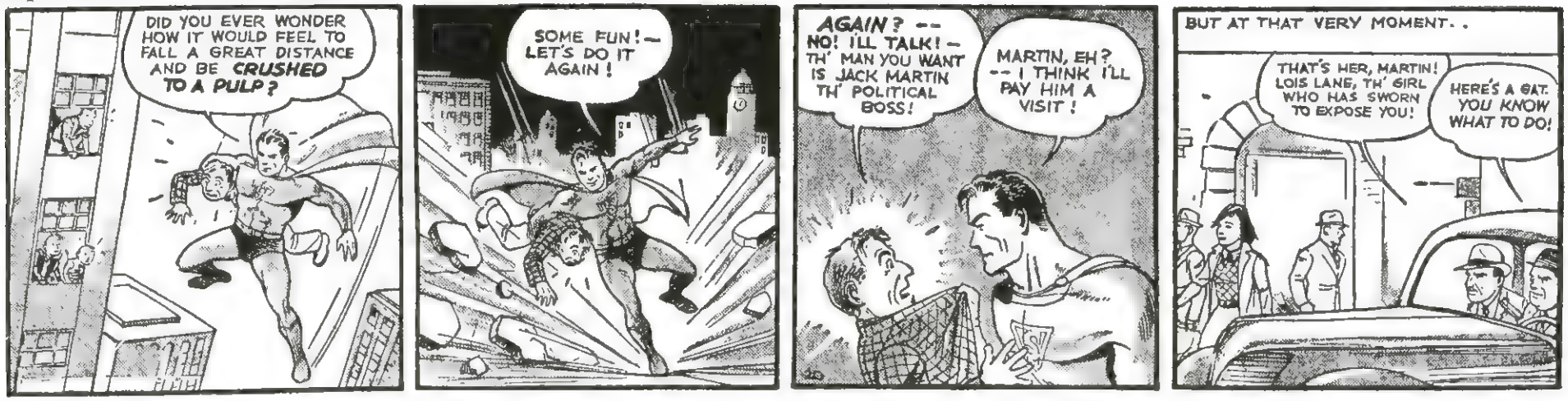

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A Little Gun Play

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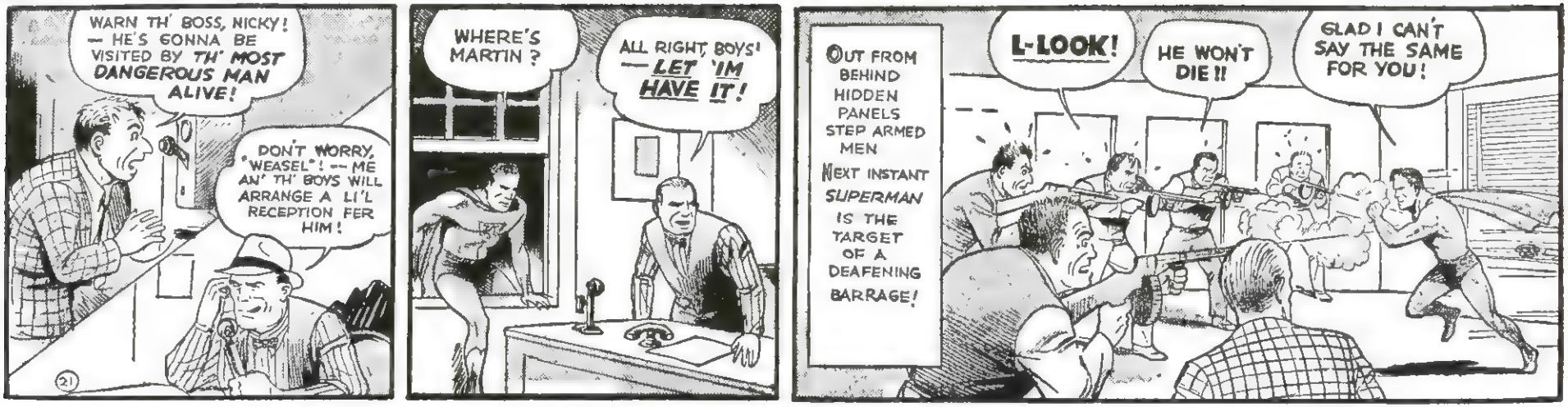

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Is Superman Late?

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman—Super Strength

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Flying Through Space

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Aerial Activities

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Unwelcome Passenger

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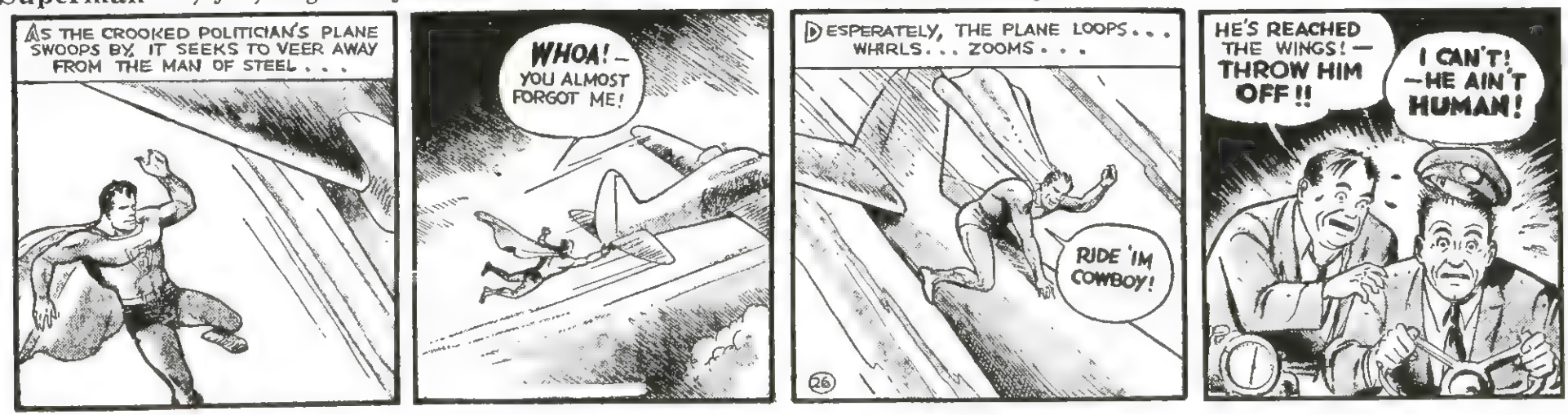

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Victory and Danger.

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Safe Again

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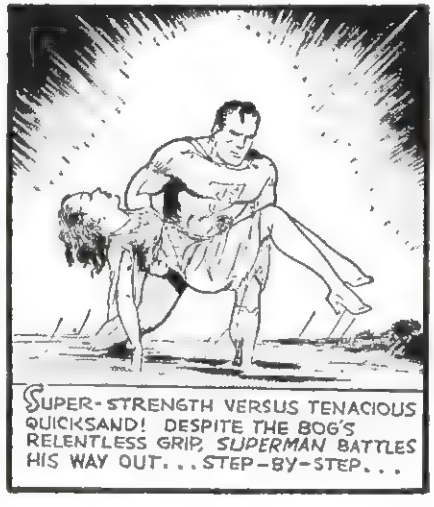

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On Time

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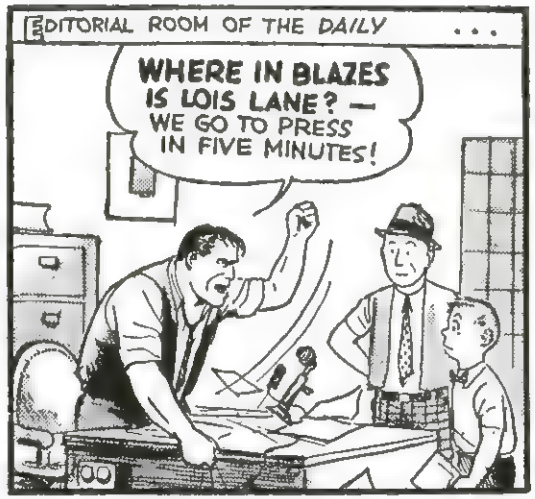

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His Reward

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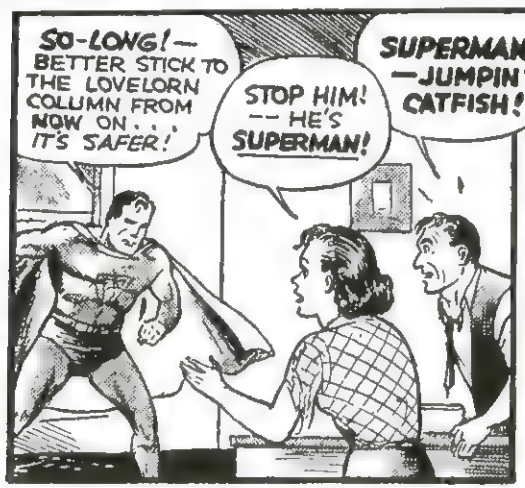
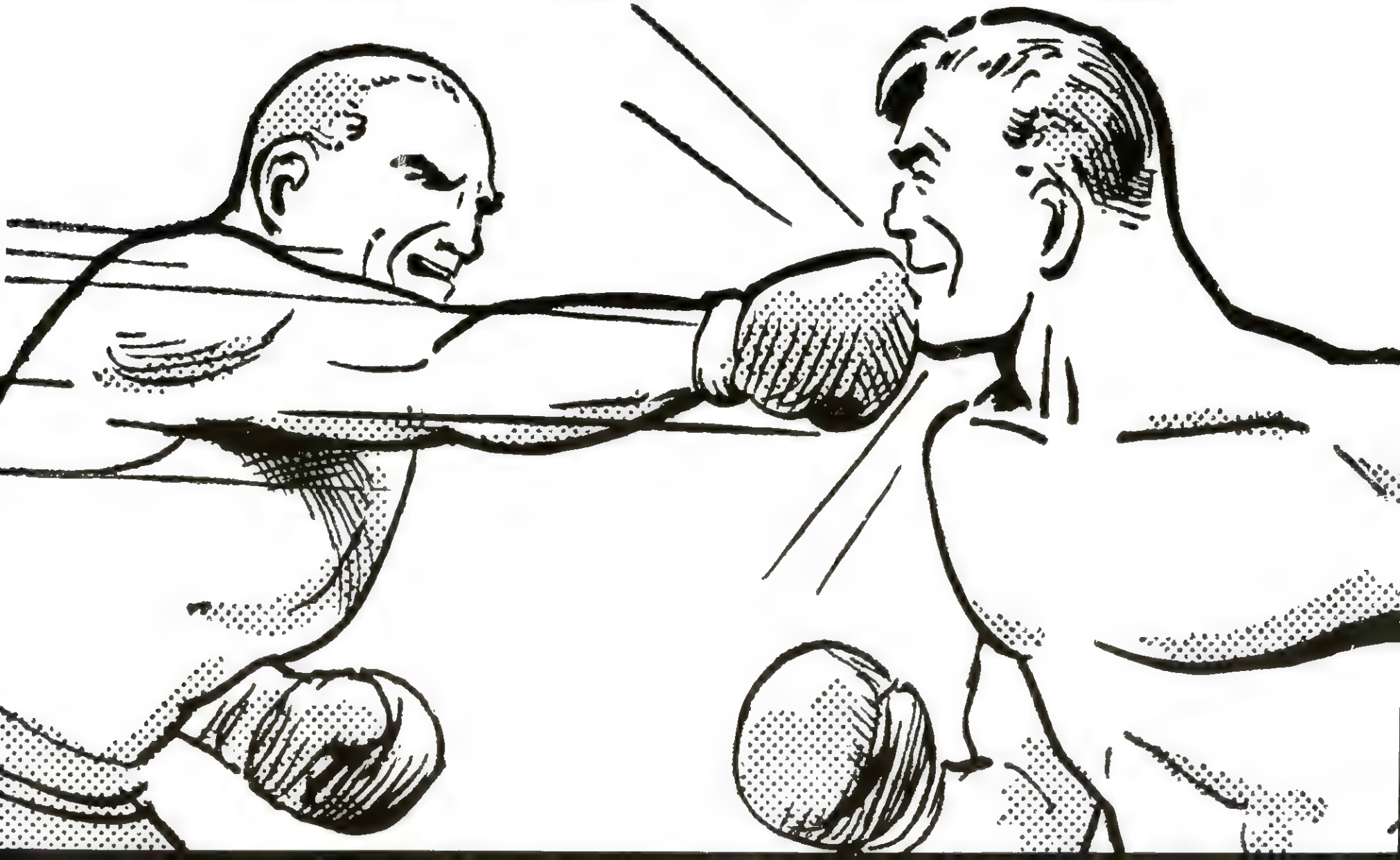
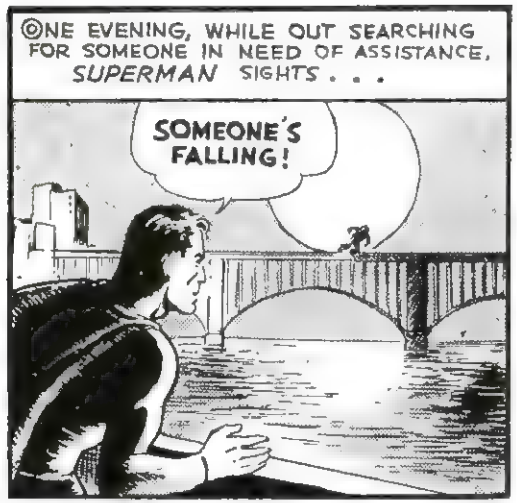


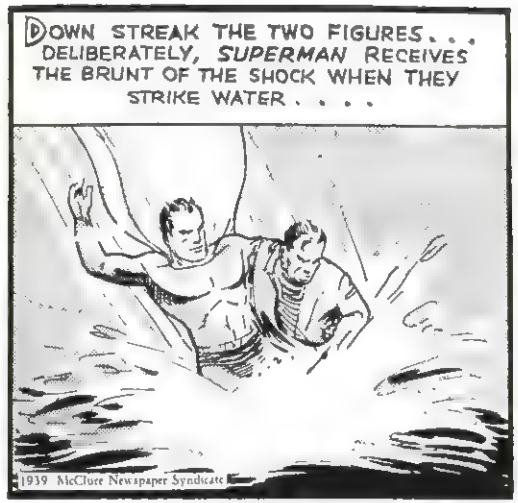
EPISODE THREE

THE COMEBACK OF LARRY TRENT




ONE EVENING, WHILE OUT SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE, SUPERMAN SIGHTS . . .
SOMEONE'S FALLING!

ALMOST MISSED!

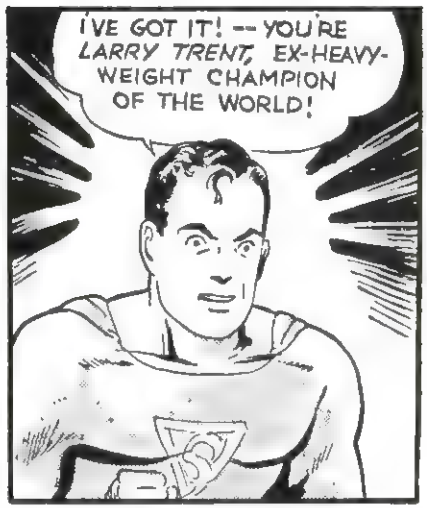

DOWN STREAK THE TWO FIGURES . . . DELIBERATELY, SUPERMAN RECEIVES THE BRUNT OF THE SHOCK WHEN THEY STRIKE WATER . . . .
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

LATER . . . WHEN THEY REACH SHORE
HE'S REVIVING! — HIS FACE . . . IT LOOKS FAMILIAR . . . AND YET, I CAN'T RECALL WHO HE IS!
31

WH-WHERE-- W-WHO--?
I SAVED YOU FROM FALLING TO YOUR DEATH. -- WHAT IS YOUR NAME? I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE, BUT YOUR EXACT IDENTITY HAS SLIPPED MY MEMORY!

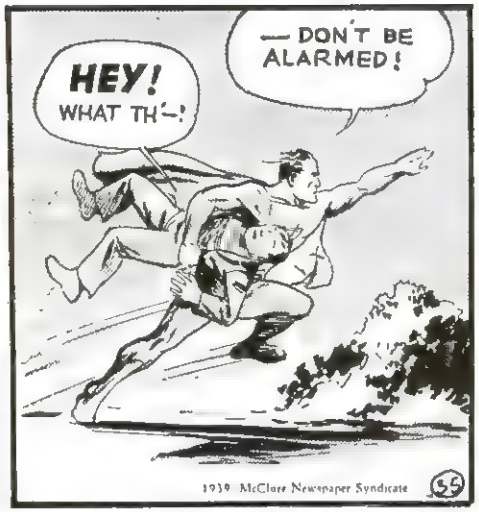
WHOA! IS THAT THE WAY FOR YOU TO BEHAVE TOWARD THE MAN WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE?
FOOL! I WAS COMMITTING SUICIDE!

IN A FURY, THE MAN ATTACKS SUPERMAN.
I'LL TEACH YOU TO INTERFERE IN OTHER PEOPLES LIVES!
SAY, YOU CERTAINLY CAN HANDLE YOUR DUKES! — COULD YOU BE . . ?
32

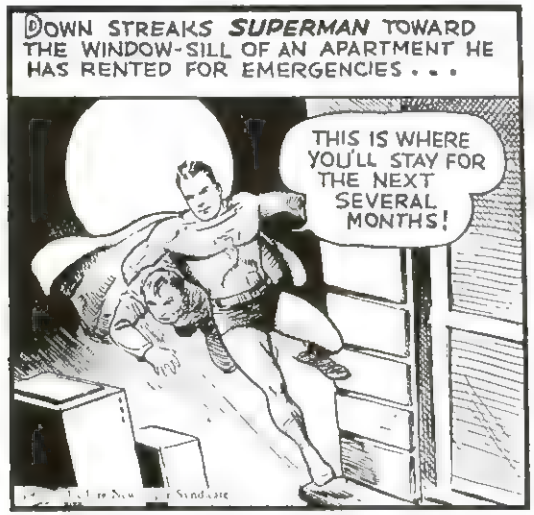

I'VE GOT IT! -- YOU'RE LARRY TRENT, EX-HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD!

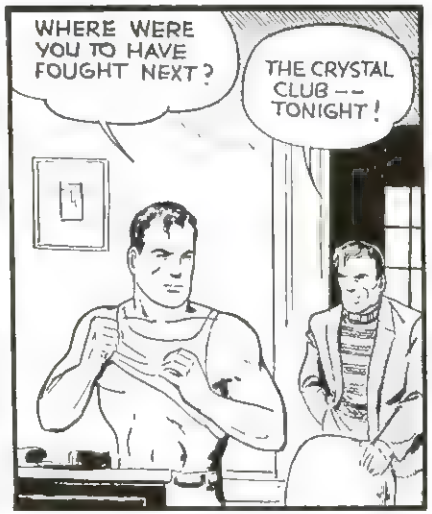
NOW DO YOU BELIEVE I'VE A CHANCE FOR THE HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE OF THE WORLD?
OF THE WORLD? GOOD LORD! -- OF THE UNIVERSE!

THEN YOU'RE WILLING TO CO-OPERATE WITH ME?
YOU BET! BOY! IF I STICK WITH YOU, I'M REALLY GOING PLACES!


HEY! WHAT TH'--!
-- DON'T BE ALARMED!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

WE'RE GOING PLACES, ALL RIGHT, LARRY, BUT SHOOTING JUST A LITTLE HIGHER THAN YOU EXPECTED!


DOWN STREAKS SUPERMAN TOWARD THE WINDOW-SILL OF AN APARTMENT HE HAS RENTED FOR EMERGENCIES . . .
THIS IS WHERE YOU'LL STAY FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS!

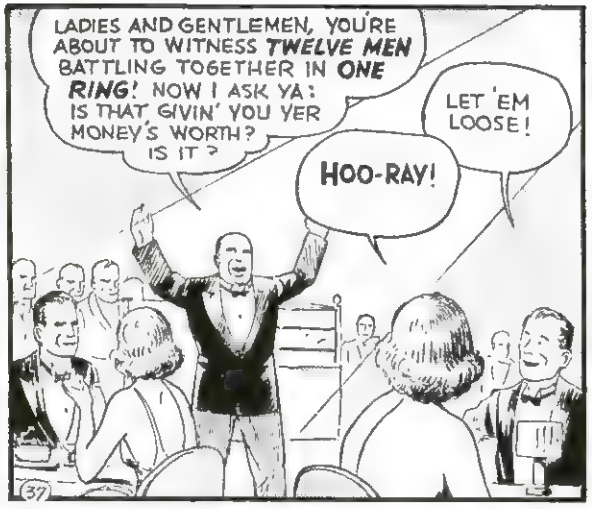

WHERE WERE YOU TO HAVE FOUGHT NEXT?
THE CRYSTAL CLUB -- TONIGHT!

GIVE ME SOME POINTERS ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW!
APPLYING MAKE-UP, SUPERMAN EXPERTLY ALTERS THE APPEARANCE OF HIS FEATURES

SHORTLY AFTER
GOOD GOSH! -- YOU'RE ME!
WRONG! YOU'RE NOT LOOKING AT LARRY TRENT, EX-CHAMP . . . BUT AT LARRY TRENT, THE COMING CHAMPION OF THE WORLD!

DISGUISED AS LARRY TRENT, SUPERMAN ENTERS THE REAR OF THE CRYSTAL CLUB
GET OVER THERE WITH THE OTHERS, TRENT!
OKAY, BOSS.

NOW LISTEN, YOU MUGS, I WANT ACTION, SEE? AND PLENTY OF LAUGHS! —NOW GET INTO THE RING AND WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL, START SOCKIN'!

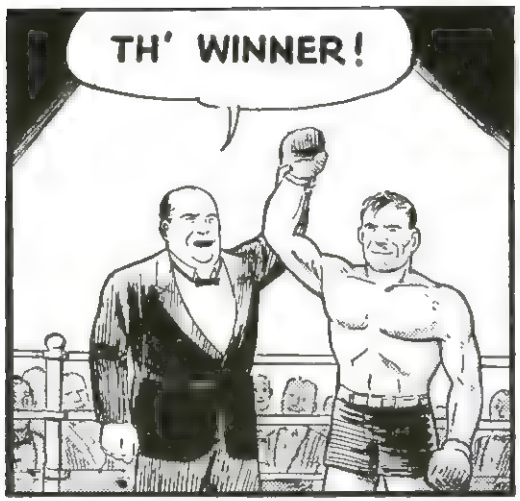

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU'RE ABOUT TO WITNESS TWELVE MEN BATTLING TOGETHER IN ONE RING! NOW I ASK YA: IS THAT GIVIN' YOU YER MONEY'S WORTH? IS IT?
LET 'EM LOOSE!
HOO-RAY!
37

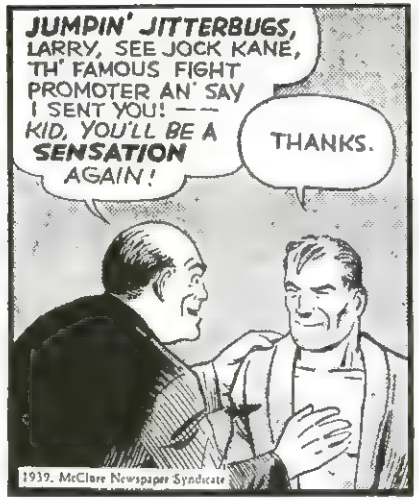
BONG
TOMORROW'S RELEASE OCCURS EXACTLY ONE SECOND LATER

AT THE SOUND OF THE BELL, SUPERMAN IS OFF LIKE A STREAKING ARROW!
FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, HE CLIPS ELEVEN EXPOSED JAWS!
REALLY!— THIS IS TOO SIMPLE!
WHAM
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
38

AND WITHIN THE SPACE OF ONE SECOND . . .
?
!

. . . IS THE ONLY CONSCIOUS BATTLER LEFT IN THE RING!
GOT ANY MORE?


TH' WINNER!


JUMPIN' JITTERBUGS, LARRY, SEE JOCK KANE, TH' FAMOUS FIGHT PROMOTER AN' SAY I SENT YOU! — — KID, YOU'LL BE A SENSATION AGAIN!
THANKS.
1939. McClure Newspaper Syndicate

LATER. . . THE MAN OF STEEL'S APARTMENT - - AS SUPERMAN SPARS WITH LARRY TRENT. . .
AND SO I WAS TOLD TO VISIT JOCK KANE!
KANE? — EVER SINCE I LOST THE TITLE, I'VE BEEN THAT GUY'S PET HATE!
39

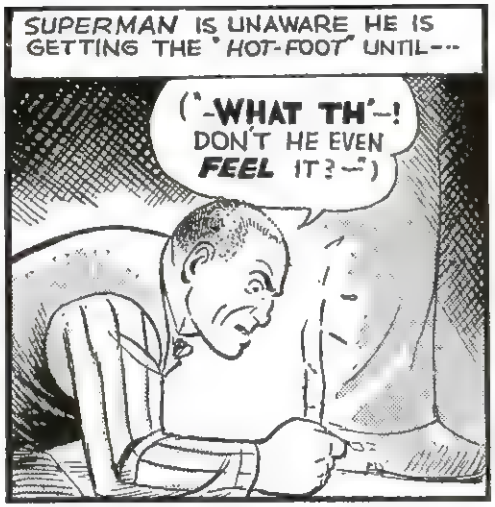
SOMEHOW, I'VE A HUNCH MR. KANE IS GOING TO CHANGE HIS ATTITUDE!
TCH! TCH! — YOU LEFT YOURSELF WIDE OPEN THAT TIME, TRENT!

NEXT MORNING, DISGUISED AS TRENT, SUPERMAN CALLS ON KANE . . .
CHARLIE BENNETT SENT ME. HE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ARRANGE A FIGHT FOR ME, AGAIN!
HEAR THAT, "SLUGGER"?
TH' GUY'S SLAP-HAPPY!

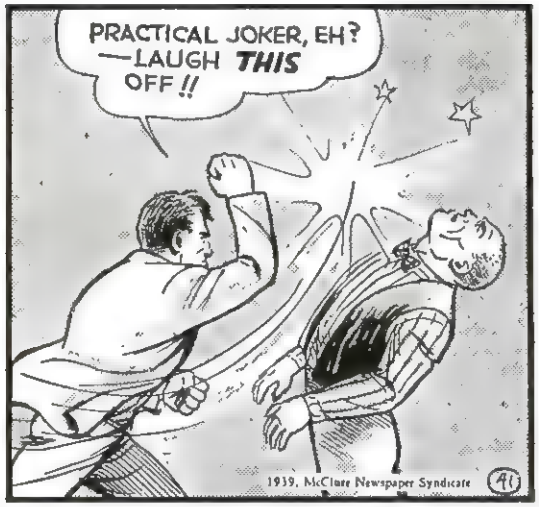
LISTEN, YOU BROKEN-DOWN BUM OF A HAS-BEEN, WE GOT NO USE FOR TRASH AROUND HERE! — — CLEAR OUT!
BUT CHARLIE SAID. . .

(— WAIT, JOCK! STALL FOR TIME WHILE I RIB TH' DUMB CLUCK!
(— HO! HO! — I GET IT! TH' "HOT FOOT!")

THIS IS GONNA BE FUNNY!
1939. McClure Newspaper Syndicate
40
EVEN FUNNIER THAN YOU EXPECT, "SLUGGER"!


SUPERMAN IS UNAWARE HE IS GETTING THE "HOT-FOOT" UNTIL--
("-WHAT TH'-! DON'T HE EVEN FEEL IT?-")

--"SLUGGER" BURNS HIS OWN FINGERS!
OUCH! -MY FINGER!


PRACTICAL JOKER, EH? -LAUGH THIS OFF!!
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

GOOD GRIEF, TRENT! YOU'VE KNOCKED OUT "SLUGGER" DOLAN, ONE OF TH' TOUGHEST FIGHTERS IN TH' GAME!
FOR A TOUGH GUY, HE'S GOT A MIGHTY SOFT CHIN!

1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate
OH-HH! MY HEAD!-- WHY DIDN'T YA WARN ME HE HAD A SLEDGE-HAMMER!
SLEDGE-HAMMER NOTHIN'! THAT WAS HIS FIST!

GET OUTTA HERE, BEFORE I CALL A COP!
WAIT! -- TH' KID'S GOT SOMETHING! WHY NOT GIVE 'IM A BREAK AN' PUT HIM IN TH' RING AGAIN!

OKAY! IF YOU SAY SO "SLUGGER"!
HEAR THAT? YER GONNA HAVE A CHANCE FER A COME BACK!
GEE, THANKS!

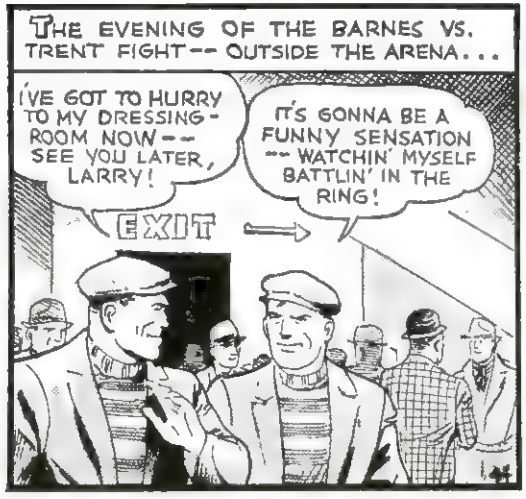
AFTER SUPERMAN DEPARTS...
HOW COME SLUGGER? -- FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD OF YOU GIVING ANYONE A BREAK!
MATCH HIM AGAINST ME! I'M GONNA PAY HIM BACK FER THAT LUCKY PUNCH WITH TH' WORST BEATING OF HIS LIFE!

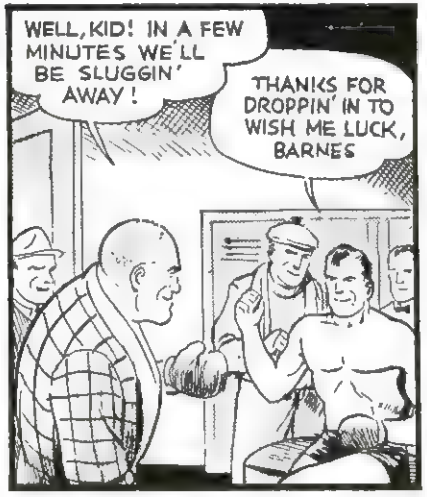
ANY LUCK?
I'VE LANDED A MATCH WITH "SLUGGER" BARNES —ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR DAILY WORK-OUT, LARRY?

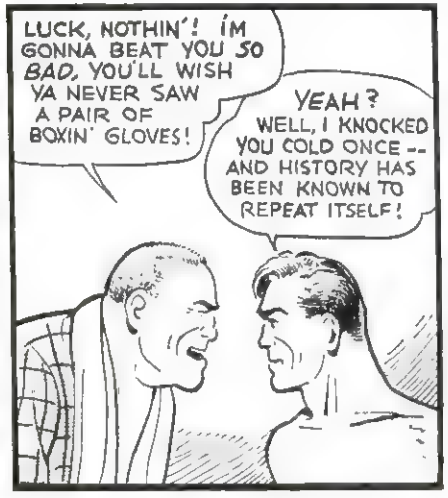
AW, WHAT'S TH' USE? I'LL NEVER GET BACK INTO GOOD CONDITION ANYWAY!
SO, YOU WON'T FIGHT EH?

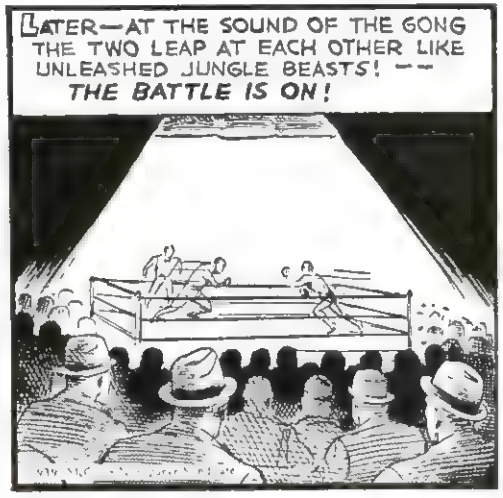
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate
WHAT YOU NEED IS A LITTLE ENCOURAGE-MENT!
WHY, YOU—! (SPLUTTER)

BLAST YA!— I'LL MOW YA DOWN!
IT WORKED!

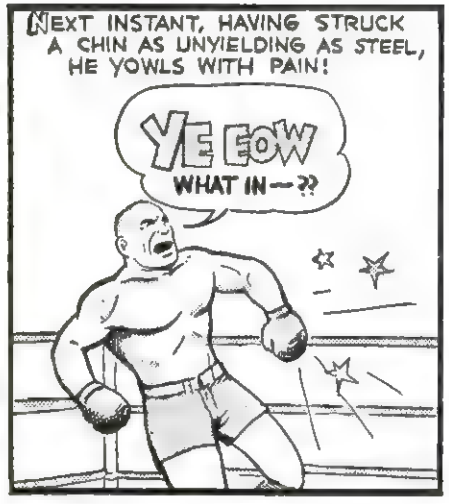

THE EVENING OF THE BARNES VS. TRENT FIGHT-- OUTSIDE THE ARENA...
I'VE GOT TO HURRY TO MY DRESSING-ROOM NOW-- SEE YOU LATER, LARRY!
IT'S GONNA BE A FUNNY SENSATION -- WATCHIN' MYSELF BATTLIN' IN THE RING!
EXIT


WELL, KID! IN A FEW MINUTES WE'LL BE SLUGGIN' AWAY!
THANKS FOR DROPPIN' IN TO WISH ME LUCK, BARNES

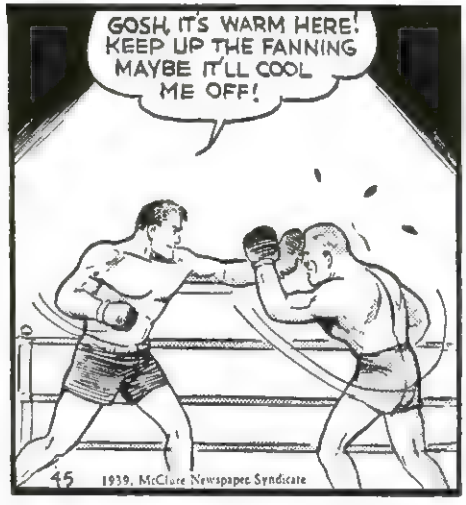

LUCK, NOTHIN'! I'M GONNA BEAT YOU SO BAD, YOU'LL WISH YA NEVER SAW A PAIR OF BOXIN' GLOVES!
YEAH? WELL, I KNOCKED YOU COLD ONCE -- AND HISTORY HAS BEEN KNOWN TO REPEAT ITSELF!


LATER—AT THE SOUND OF THE GONG THE TWO LEAP AT EACH OTHER LIKE UNLEASHED JUNGLE BEASTS! -- THE BATTLE IS ON!

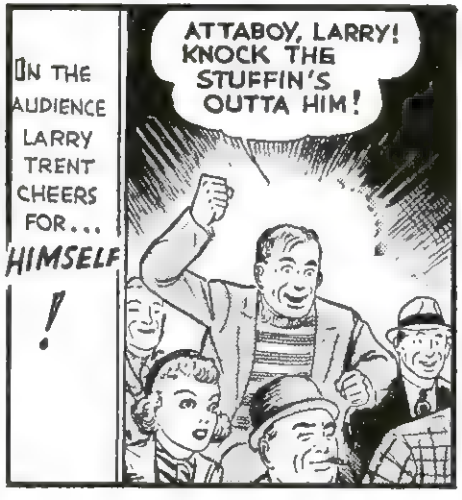
BARNES SLAMS A TERRIFIC LEFT TO SUPERMAN'S JAW!
HERE'S THAT PUNCH BACK... WITH INTEREST!


NEXT INSTANT, HAVING STRUCK A CHIN AS UNYIELDING AS STEEL, HE YOWLS WITH PAIN!
YE EOW
WHAT IN--??

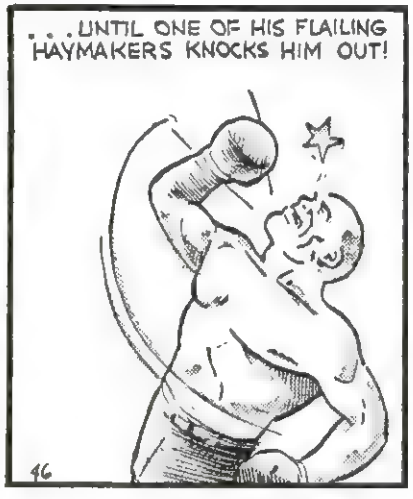
I'LL--!
TCH! TCH! MUSTN'T LOSE YOUR TEMPER!


GOSH, IT'S WARM HERE! KEEP UP THE FANNING MAYBE IT'LL COOL ME OFF!
45
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

EACH TIME BARNES STRIKES SUPERMAN IT FEELS TO HIM AS THO HE WERE BATTERING A STONE WALL!
OUCH! WHAT TH'--?


IN THE AUDIENCE LARRY TRENT CHEERS FOR... HIMSELF!
ATTABOY, LARRY! KNOCK THE STUFFIN'S OUTTA HIM!

BARNES' FRANTIC BLOWS ONLY WEAR HIMSELF DOWN...
(PUFF! — PUFF!)
I'M STILL WAITING FOR THAT BAD BEATING YOU PROMISED ME!
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

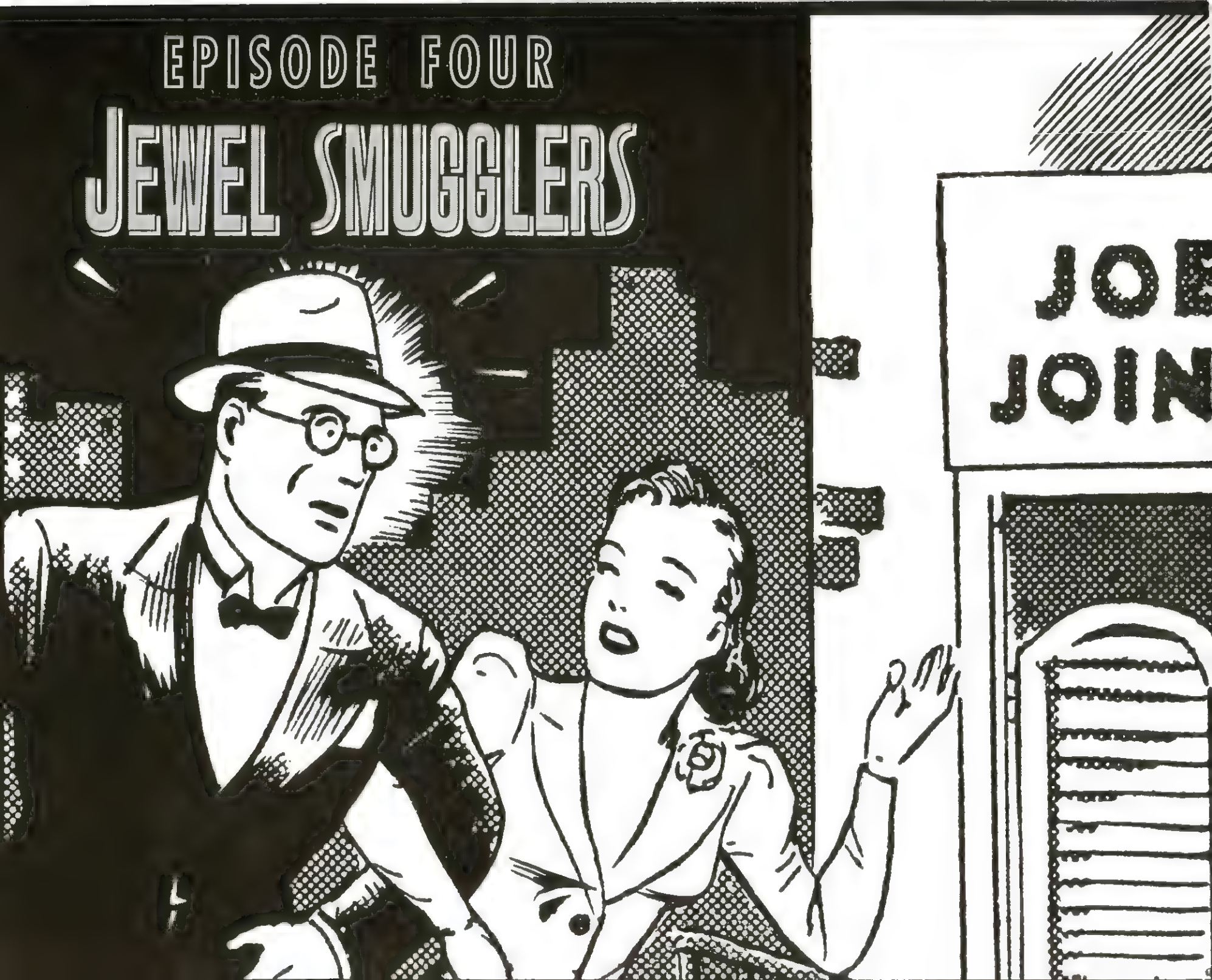

...UNTIL ONE OF HIS FLAILING HAYMAKERS KNOCKS HIM OUT!
46

--EIGHT, NINE, TEN! YOU'RE OUT!!
AND SO IT IS THAT SUPERMAN, IN THE GUISE OF LARRY TRENT, WINS THE MATCH TO EVERYONE'S ASTONISHMENT!
YOU CHEAP BUM! YOU SAID YOU WERE GOIN' TO KNOCK HIM FOR A LOOP!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! -- I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
BOO BOO
BOO
ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE ANOTHER TRY FOR THE HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE, TRENT?
NOPE! NOT JUST A "TRY"... I'M GOING TO GET IT!
WHEN SUPERMAN REACHES HIS DRESSING ROOM....
WAIT, LARRY! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
AND WHO ARE YOU?
I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR SLIGHTING YOUR OLD MANAGER. BUT LISTEN, KID! I BUILT YOU UP TO TH' TOP OF TH' HEAP, ONCE -- AND I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
SUPERMAN REALIZES HE IS TALKING TO TOM CROY, LARRY'S FORMER CROOKED MANAGER...
WELL, WHAT DO YOU SAY?
OKAY, TOM!
48
SMART LAD! YOU'LL NEVER REGRET THIS! ("—HO! HO! DID I PUT THAT OVER!—")
I'M SURE I WON'T! ("—BUT YOU'LL REGRET IT!—")

HO! HO! — DID I PUT THAT ONE OVER NEATLY!
HOW D' YA MAKE OUT?
IT WAS A CINCH! YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN HOW EASILY I ROPED HIM IN!
THE SAP'S GOT ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WE'RE GONNA PULL TH' SAME STUNT AGAIN -- BUILD HIM UP TO MEET TH' CHAMP, THEN GIVE HIM A DRUGGED DRINK BEFORE TH' FIGHT AN' CLEAN UP BETTIN'!
FROM ATOP A NEARBY BUILDING, SUPERMAN'S SUPER-ACUTE HEARING HAS ENABLED HIM TO HEAR EVERY WORD
JUST AS I SUSPECTED!
LATER — EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE DAILY STAR . . .
THIS STORY YOU'VE WRITTEN PREDICTING A COMEBACK FOR TRENT, CLARK -- IT'LL MAKE US THE LAUGHING STOCK OF ALL THE OTHER PAPERS.
LET 'EM LAUGH! THE LOUDER THEY CACKLE NOW, THE MORE SHEEPISH THEY'LL FEEL LATER!
LARRY TRENT COMES BACK!
BY CLARK KENT
IN A SURPRISING BATTLE TONIGHT LARRY TRENT, EX-HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD, WRESTED THE DECISION FROM THE FAVORITE 'SLUGGER' BARNES.
TO SAY THAT FIGHT FANS WERE AMAZED
THE WINNER
AS THE MONTHS PASS --
MILWAUKEE JOURNAL
TRENT WINS TENTH STRAIGHT VICTORY
SCORE TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT IN 1ST.
BY PAUL CASSIDY
SPORTS
BOSTON TRANSCRIPT
LARRY KAYOES RIVAL; TITLE BATTLE NEXT
CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH TOMORROW NIGHT
MILLION DOLLAR GATE EXPECTED
FISTICUFF FOLLOWERS WILL BE FLOCKING TO THE ARENA IN DROVES TOMORROW TO WITNESS THE BATTLE OF THE CENTURY. THE PRESENT TITLE-HOLDER, FRANKIE MASTERS, CLAIMS HE WILL SEND THE CHALLENGER LARRY TRENT, BACK INTO OBSCURITY. MANY, HOWEVER, BELIEVE

THE DAY BEFORE THE BIG FIGHT..
DO YOU MIND IF WE DON'T SPAR TODAY? --I...I'M FEELING LOW!
AW C'MON, LARRY! PUT UP THOSE DUKES! THAT'S NO WAY FOR TH' NEXT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP OF THE WORLD TO TALK!
I'VE BEEN THINKIN'!— S'POSE YOU DO WIN TH' TITLE UNDER MY NAME, THEN ALLOW ME TO TAKE TH' CREDIT.-- WHAT DOES THAT GIVE ME BUT A HOLLOW VICTORY!
SO THAT'S WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU! LISTEN, OUR CONSTANT TRAINING HAS PUT YOU IN EXCELLENT CONDITION... TOMORROW, YOU'RE GOING TO ENTER THE RING AND WIN THAT TITLE!
ME!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
YA-HOO! I'LL KNOCK 'IM SILLY!
ATTABOY!
51.
LATER --
THE OTHER NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN KIDDING US BECAUSE OF YOUR PLUGGING TRENT FOR THE TITLE -- ARE YOU SURE HE'S GOING TO WIN?
SO POSITIVE THAT I'VE WRITTEN THE FIGHT'S OUTCOME IN ADVANCE! HERE IT IS, READY FOR PRINT!
THE EVENING OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT...
REMEMBER! IF TH' DRUGGED DRINK DON'T WORK, THIS WILL!
DON'T WORRY! HE'LL SWALLOW ENOUGH DOPE TO KNOCK OUT A DOZEN MEN!
52.
THE GONG CLANGS --AND TRENT LEAPS FROM HIS CORNER, DETERMINED TO WIN BACK THE COVETED TITLE!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
AT THE CLOSE OF THE FIRST ROUND..
NOPE! DON'T WANT ANY! — ("—I'LL NOT LET YOU PULL THAT ONE ON ME AGAIN!—")
G'WAN, KID! DRINK IT! ("—DOES HE SUSPECT?—")
END OF ROUND SIX... WHEN LARRY IS TOO WEAK TO RESIST
I—DON'T—WANT—ANY!
GO AHEAD! DRINK!

AS CROY IS ABOUT TO FORCE LARRY TO SWALLOW THE DRUGGED DRINK, A GRIP OF STEEL ENCIRCLES THE REAR OF HIS NECK!
GO ON! DRINK IT YOURSELF!
GLUG!-GLUB!
HELP! I'M POISONED!
WRATHFUL AT SEEING HIS CROOKED SCHEME FOILED, CROY'S GAMBLER-ACCOMPLICE PREPARES TO FULFILL HIS THREAT TO KILL LARRY!
NO PUNK CAN CROSS ME -- AND LIVE!
53
LEAPING IN, SUPERMAN JAMS HIS HAND OVER THE GUN'S MUZZLE... THE WEAPON EXPLODES IN THE KILLER'S FACE!
UNAWARE OF THE DRAMA ENACTED OUTSIDE THE RING, LARRY KNOCKS DOWN HIS OPPONENT FOR THE COUNT!
THE WINNER -- AND NEW HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD!
LATER — AS LARRY GOES TO THANK THE MAN REALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS COMEBACK
THAT'S STRANGE! THE APARTMENT'S EMPTY...EXCEPT FOR THIS NOTE!
54
You don't need me any longer, Larry, and so — farewell
Sincere congratulations!
SUPERMAN
WHAT BEATS ME, CLARK, IS HOW THIS STORY YOU WROTE IN ADVANCE OF THE FIGHT, SCOOPING THE OTHER PAPERS, COULD HAVE PREDICTED THE OUTCOME IN SUCH DETAIL!
JUST FORESIGHT, CHIEF! -- MERELY FORESIGHT!
Beginning MONDAY
A THRILLING NEW ADVENTURE STARRING
SUPERMAN
THE MAN OF TOMORROW
!


EPISODE FOUR
JEWEL SMUGGLERS
JOE
JOIN

THE EDITOR'S WAITING TO SEE YOU IN HIS OFFICE, KENT. BETTER HURRY!
BE RIGHT WITH HIM!
55

I WON'T STAND FOR IT! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!
I'M SORRY, LOIS, BUT IT'S BACK TO THE LOVELORN COLUMN FOR YOU. IT'S SAFER, ANYWAY!
WANT ME, CHIEF?
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

CLARK, YOU COVERED TRENT'S COMEBACK SO WELL, I'M PROMOTING YOU!
GEE... THAT'S SWELL!
FOR YOU!

OH, HOW I HATE CLARK KENT! — I TELL YOU, HE DELIBERATELY SET OUT TO TAKE MY JOB FROM ME!
SH-H-H! — HERE HE COMES NOW!

ABOUT YOUR BEING DEMOTED, LOIS -- PLEASE BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY I'M SORRY!
I'M FAR FROM BEING HAPPY ABOUT IT MYSELF!
66

LET ME TAKE YOU TO SOME GAY PLACE TONIGHT...I'M VERY EXPERT AT CONSOLING PEOPLE
SORRY... -- NOT INTERESTED

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TURN HIM DOWN THAT COLDLY!
THE LESS I SEE OF THAT WORM THE BETTER!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

MAY I SEE THE LOVELORN EDITOR!
I'LL TELL HER YOU'RE HERE!

I—I'M DESPERATE! I'VE COME TO YOU AS A LAST RESORT!
TELL ME YOUR TROUBLES — IF I CAN OFFER HELPFUL ADVICE, I'LL BE GLAD TO DO SO!

IT'S ABOUT MY HUSBAND: LEW FRAWLEY. WE GOT ALONG FINE 'TILL HE TOOK TO HANGING OUT WITH A TOUGH BUNCH AT JOE'S JOINT!
57

NOW HE RARELY COMES HOME... WHEN HE DOES, HE BEATS ME! -- THIS IS A PHOTO OF HIM.
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

AND WORSE -- I THINK HE'S JOINED A GANG OF SMUGGLERS!
GIVE ME A FEW DAYS.— PERHAPS I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU GET YOUR HUSBAND BACK. -- ("— GOLLY! THIS SOUNDS LIKE THE TIP TO A GREAT STORY THAT MAY WIN ME BACK MY NEWS REPORTER JOB.")

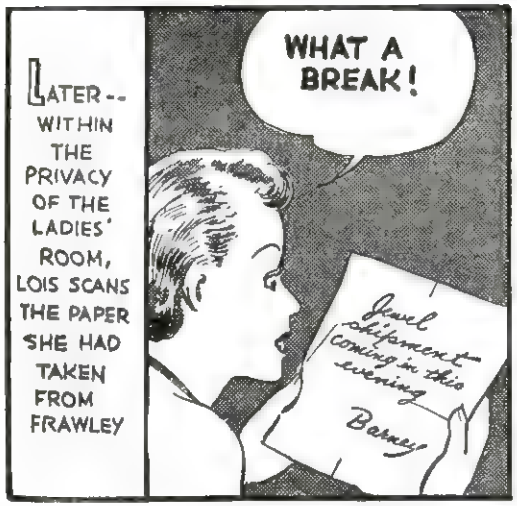
BR-RR! — DID LOIS TURN ME DOWN COLD WHEN I ASKED FOR THAT DATE!
58

I'VE CHANGED MY MIND, CLARK. I'D BE DELIGHTED TO ACCOMPANY YOU TONIGHT!
YOU WHAT-? G-GOSH! -- THAT'S GREAT!

THAT EVENING
MIND IF I INSTRUCT THE CAB DRIVER WHERE TO GO?
NOT AT ALL!

JOE'S JOINT! —WHY THIS IS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST JOINTS ON THE WATERFRONT!
I KNOW IT! S'MATTER? AFRAID TO ENTER?
JOE'S JOINT

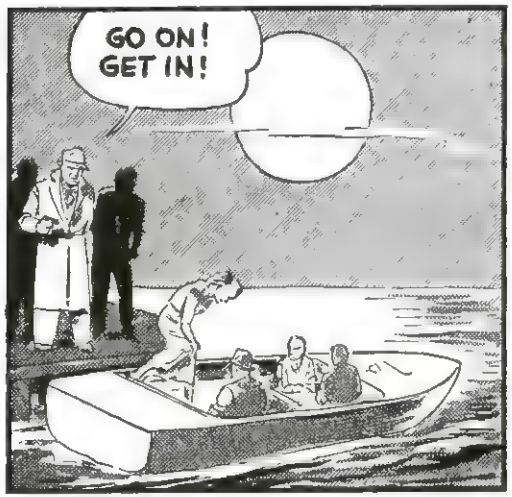
IT WAS STUBBORN AND DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO INSIST WE COME HERE!
NOT SCARED, ARE YOU? — A LITTLE SLUMMING WILL DO YOU GOOD!
("—THE MAN AT THAT TABLE... HE'S LEW FRAWLEY! —I'VE GOT TO CATCH HIS ATTENTION!—")
DELIBERATELY, LOIS WINKS...!
UM-MM! — IS THAT GOOD-LOOKER GIVIN' YOU TH' EYE!
WATCH ME GIVE 'ER A BREAK AN' CUT IN!
GO TO IT, LEW!
HI-YA, BABE! — HOW'S ABOUT YOU AN' ME DANCIN'?
HOLD ON! THIS ISN'T A "CUT-IN" DANCE!
DON'T GET FLIP WID ME! —BEAT IT, PUNK!
ULP-!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
60
AS LEW DANCES OFF WITH LOIS, CLARK TURNS PALE AND TREMBLES WITH HELPLESS RAGE... IN KEEPING WITH HIS ASSUMED ATTITUDE OF COWARDLINESS
YOU'RE SO MANLY... AND STRONG!
WANTA FEEL MY MUSCLE?
WHILE LOIS CLEVERLY INFLATES FRAWLEY'S EGO, SHE SLIPS A FOLDED PAPER FROM HIS POCKET!


LATER -- WITHIN THE PRIVACY OF THE LADIES' ROOM, LOIS SCANS THE PAPER SHE HAD TAKEN FROM FRAWLEY
WHAT A BREAK!
Jewel shipment coming in this evening
Barney

SAY! — IS THAT DAME WILD ABOUT ME!
YA DUMB SAP! WE SAW HER SWIPE A NOTE RIGHT OUTA YER POCKET.
YA'VE BEEN PLAYED FER A SUCKER! GONNA LET HER GET AWAY WITH IT?

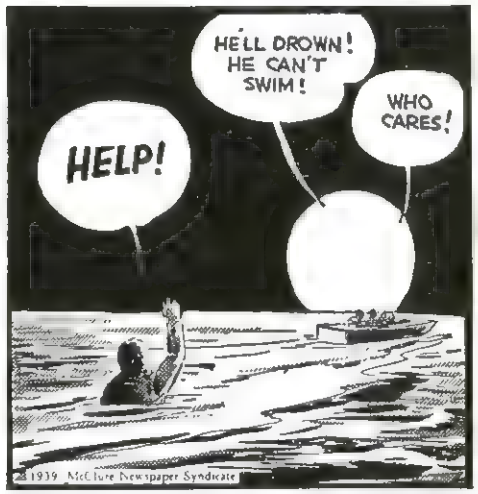
I'M LEAVING! — I WON'T STAY HERE ANOTHER SECOND WITH A COWARDLY WEAKLING WHO ALLOWS A GIRL TO BE INSULTED!
BUT LOIS—!

KEEP WALKIN'
AN' NOT A PEEP OUTA EITHER OF YA!


GO ON! GET IN!

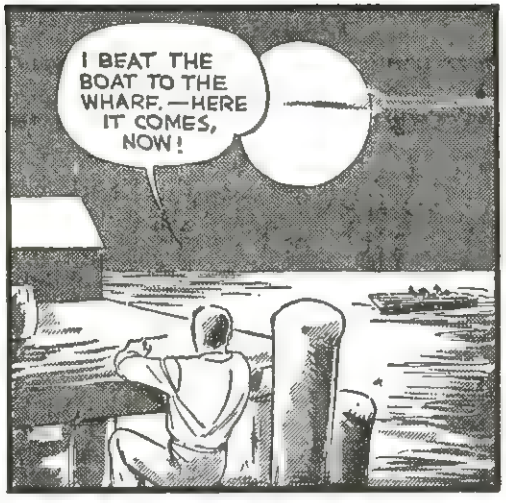
C'MON! SPILL IT! —YER A DETECTIVE AREN'T YA?
YOU'RE HURTING ME!
L-LET HER ALONE!

I WARNED YA T'KEEP THAT MOUTH SHUT!
62


HELP!
HE'LL DROWN! HE CAN'T SWIM!
WHO CARES!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

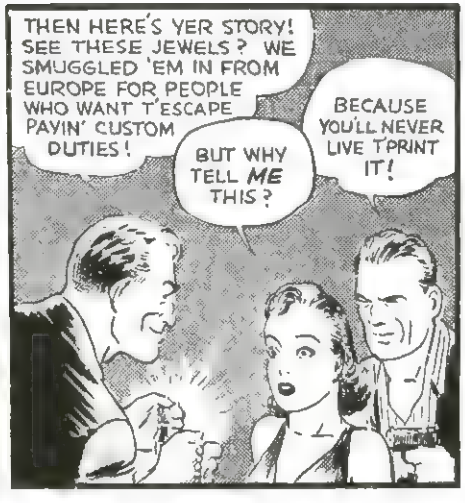
LEAVE ME TO DROWN, WILL THEY? — WELL, THEY'VE GOT ANOTHER GUESS COMING!

KENT SWIMS UNDERWATER AT TERRIFIC SPEED...
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate 63


I BEAT THE BOAT TO THE WHARF. — HERE IT COMES, NOW!

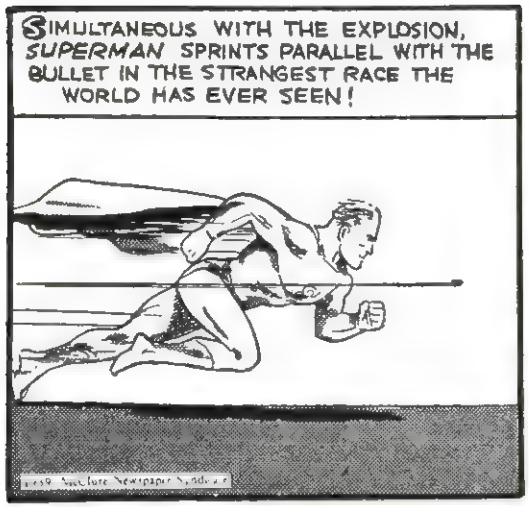
THE THUGS DRAG LOIS INTO A SHACK ON THE WHARF, COMPLETELY UNAWARE THEY ARE BEING OBSERVED BY A FANTASTIC, CLOAKED FIGURE...

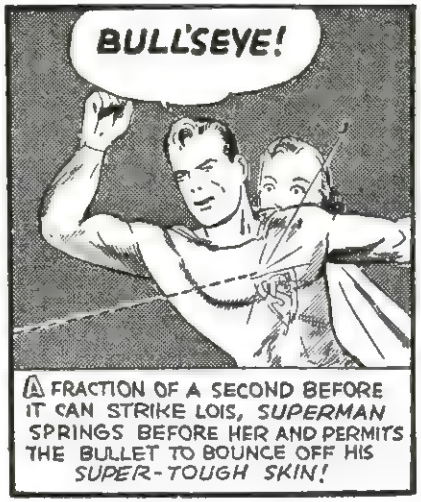
TALK!
PLEASE BELIEVE ME! I'M NOT A DETECTIVE. — JUST A REPORTER IN SEARCH OF A STORY!


THEN HERE'S YER STORY! SEE THESE JEWELS? WE SMUGGLED 'EM IN FROM EUROPE FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT T'ESCAPE PAYIN' CUSTOM DUTIES!
BUT WHY TELL ME THIS?
BECAUSE YOU'LL NEVER LIVE T'PRINT IT!

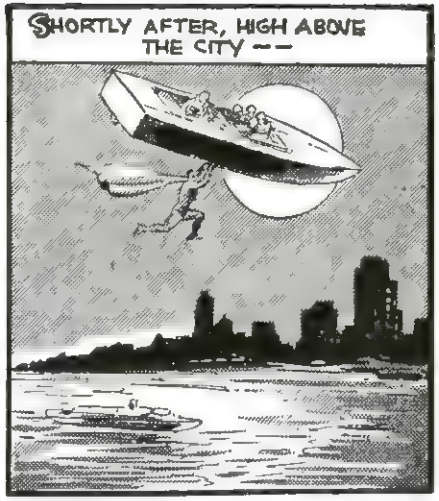
DON'T SHOOT-- IF YOU VALUE YOUR OWN SKIN!
WHAT--? WHO IN--?

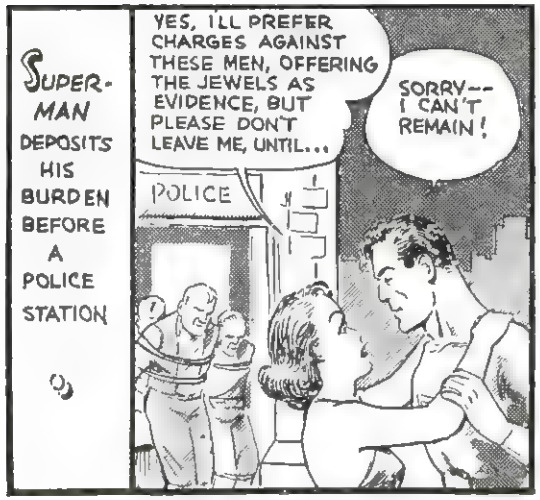
TOO LATE! — LEW'S FINGER CONTRACTS -- A DEAFENING EXPLOSION...AND A DEADLY LEADEN MISSILE IS LAUNCHED AT THE HELPLESS GIRL REPORTER!
CROSS YOUR FINGERS, FOLKS!


SIMULTANEOUS WITH THE EXPLOSION, SUPERMAN SPRINTS PARALLEL WITH THE BULLET IN THE STRANGEST RACE THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!


BULL'SEYE!
A FRACTION OF A SECOND BEFORE IT CAN STRIKE LOIS, SUPERMAN SPRINGS BEFORE HER AND PERMITS THE BULLET TO BOUNCE OFF HIS SUPER-TOUGH SKIN!

AND NOW FOR YOU GENTS..!


SHORTLY AFTER, HIGH ABOVE THE CITY --


SUPER-MAN DEPOSITS HIS BURDEN BEFORE A POLICE STATION
YES, I'LL PREFER CHARGES AGAINST THESE MEN, OFFERING THE JEWELS AS EVIDENCE, BUT PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME, UNTIL...
SORRY-- I CAN'T REMAIN!
POLICE

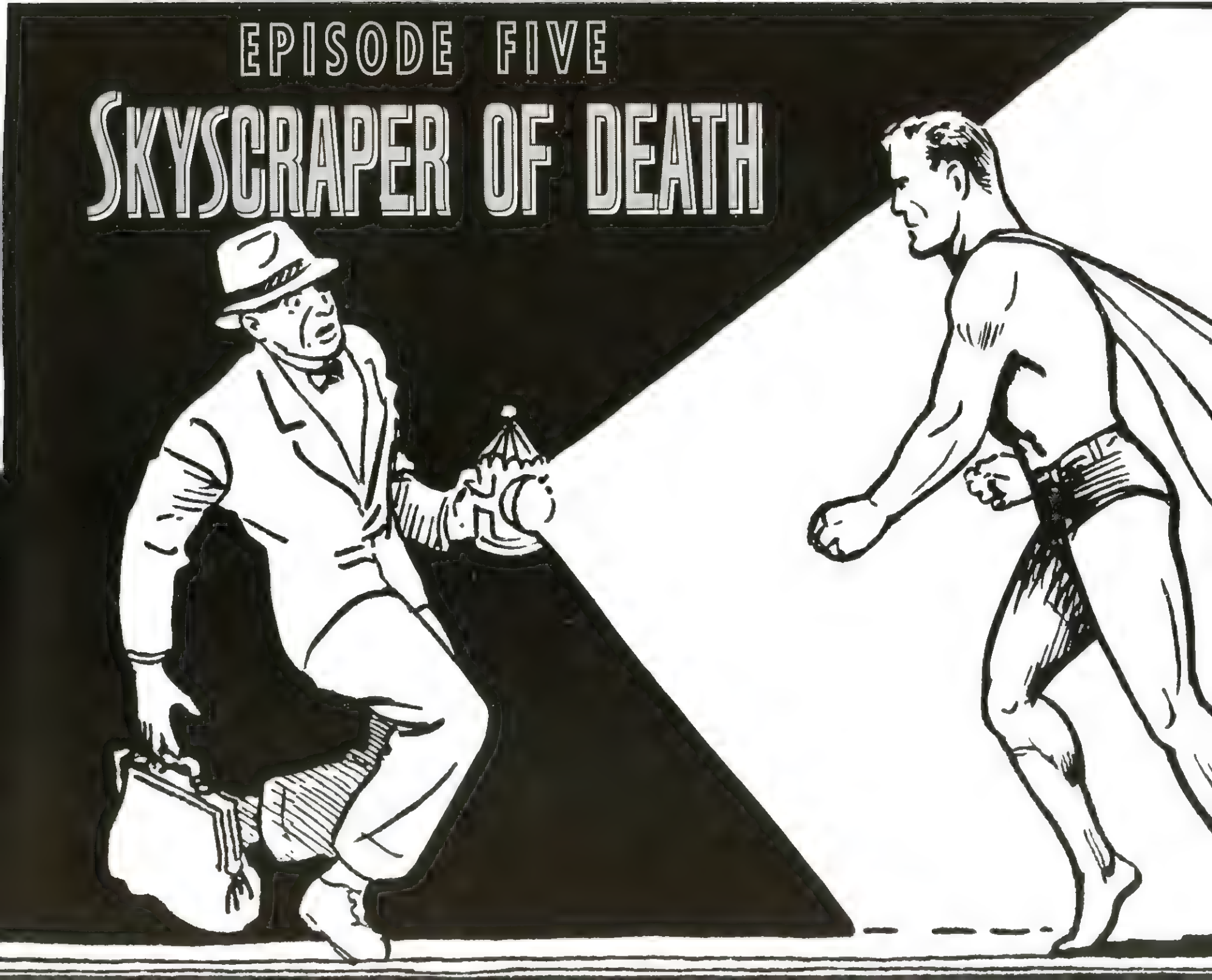
LATER
LISTEN TO ME, CHIEF -- A GREAT STORY --JEWEL SMUGGLERS-- AN EXCLUSIVE SCOOP!
BEFORE YOU BLOW OFF ANY MORE STEAM -- READ THIS!

DAILY STAR
SMUGGLERS APPREHENDED
GIANT RING UNCOVERED
BY CLARK KENT

YOU-- ALIVE!
THO I'D NEVER SWUM BEFORE IN MY LIFE I MANAGED TO REACH SHORE ALIVE AND PHONE IN THE STORY! -- SURPRISED?
STARTING MONDAY
A BRAND NEW SUPERMAN ADVENTURE
DON'T MISS IT!

EPISODE FIVE

SKYSCRAPER OF DEATH



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What's Wrong?

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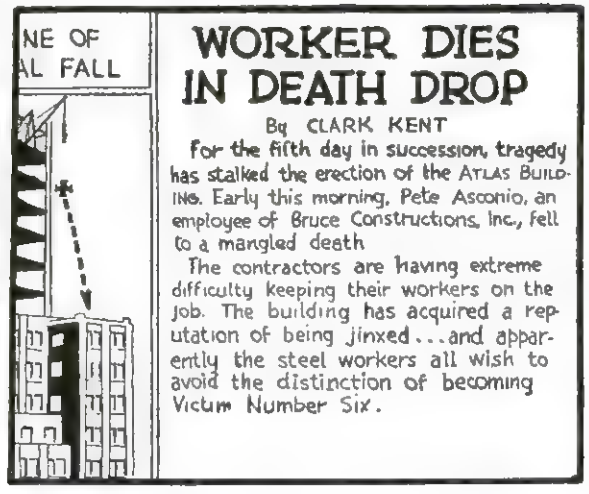

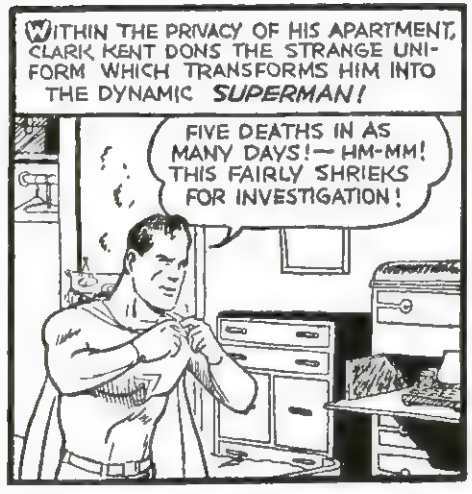

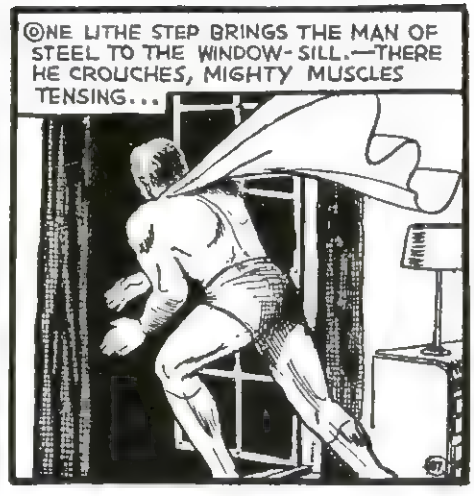

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Superman Investigates

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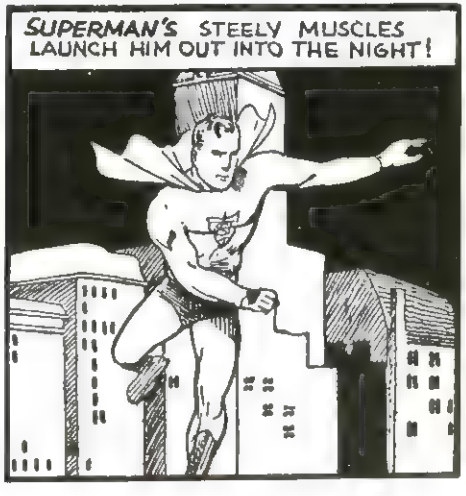

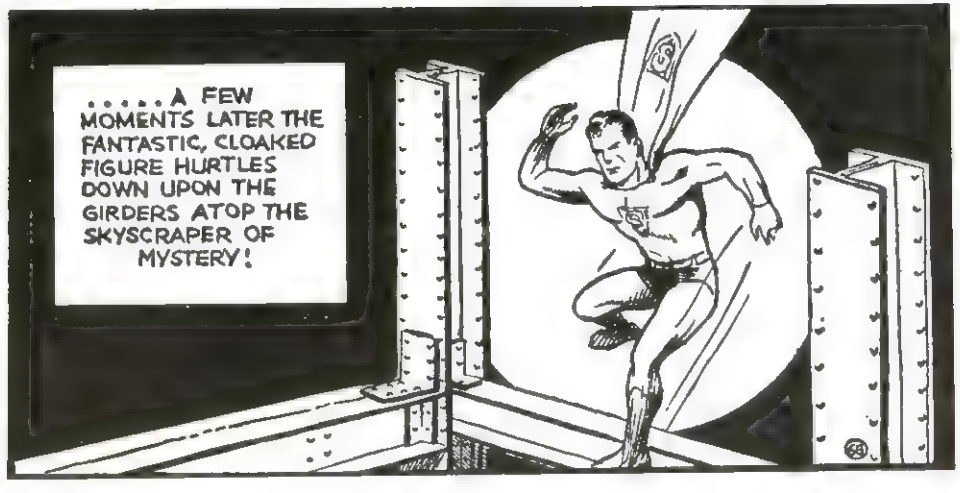

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A Clear Coast

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Dirty Work

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A Strange Apparition

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Another Accident.

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Down—Down!

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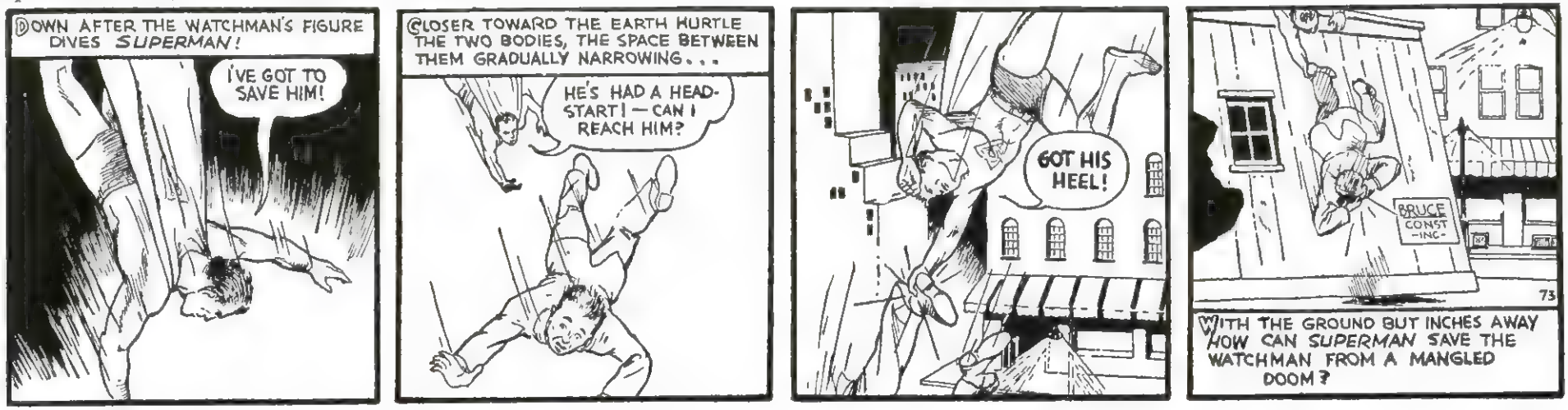

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Made It!

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Orders From the Gang

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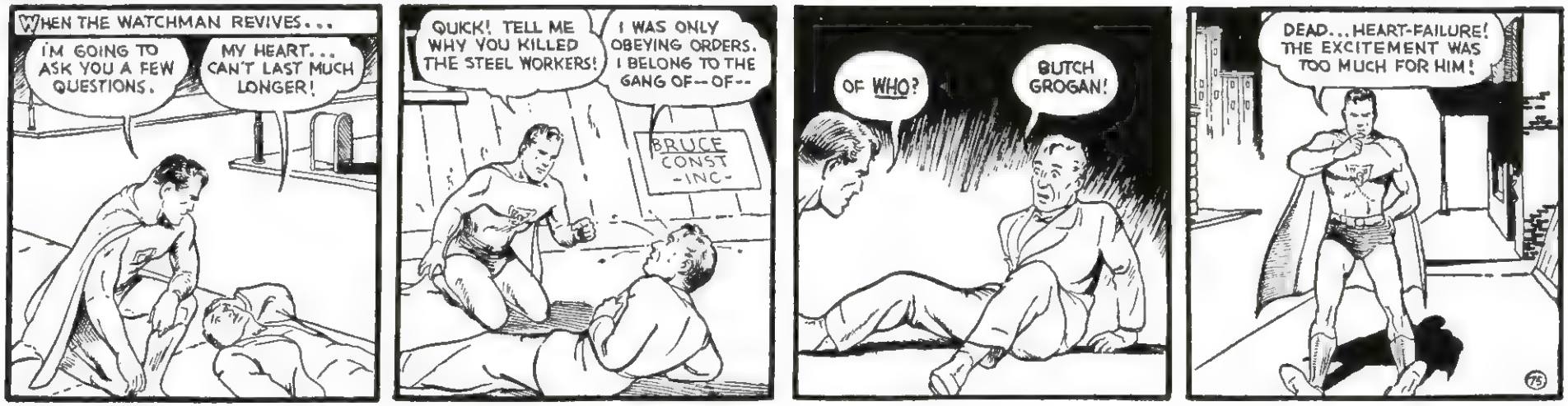

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Impolite!

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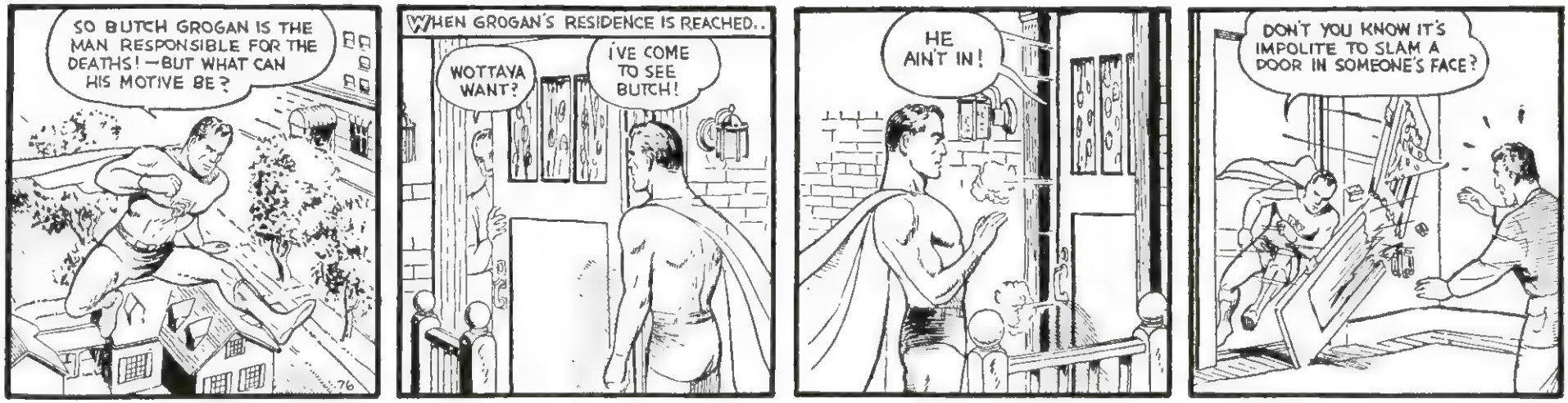

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An Insistent Guest

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What's the Super-Degree?

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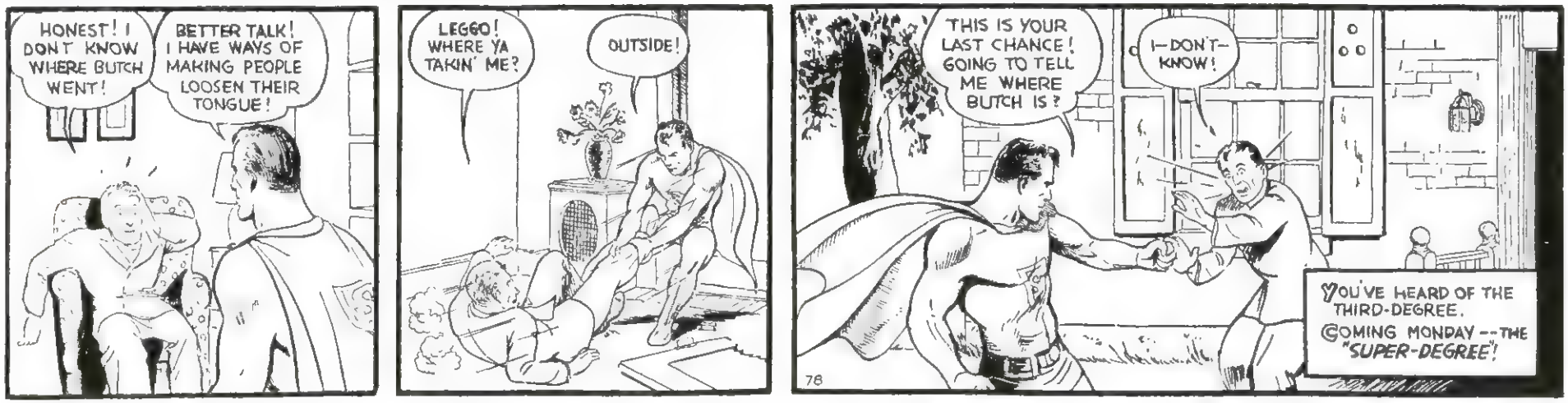

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Can Superman Get Through?

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Into the Steel Sanctum

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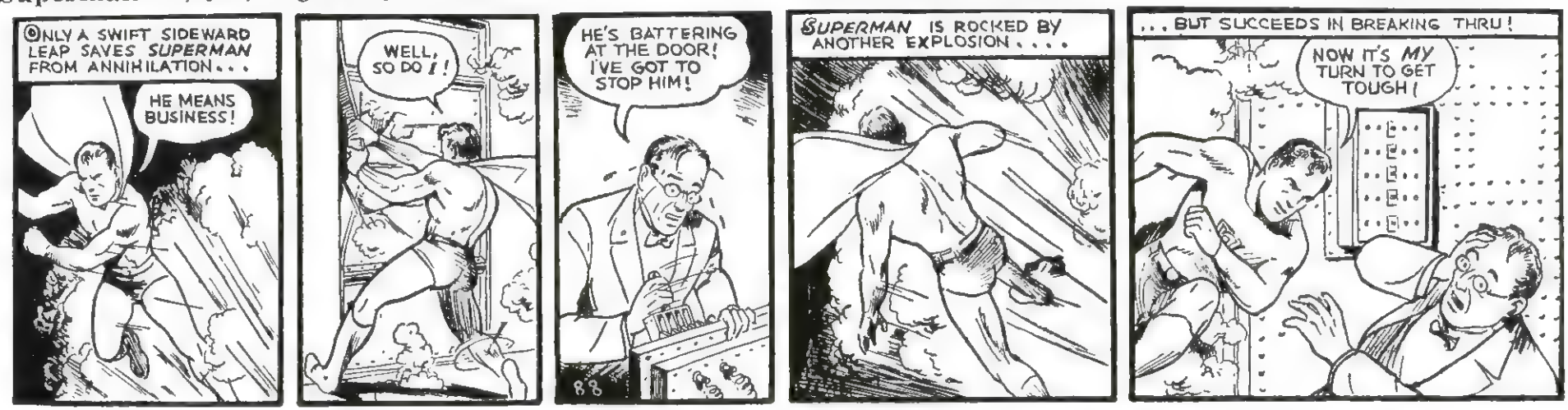

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Arrest Me!

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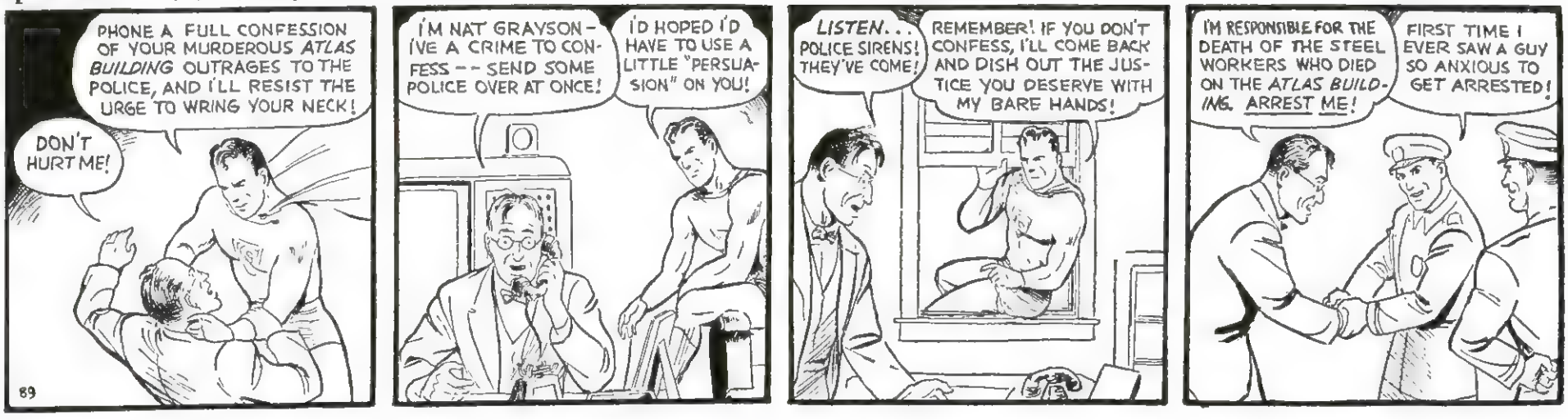

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Another Scoop for the Paper

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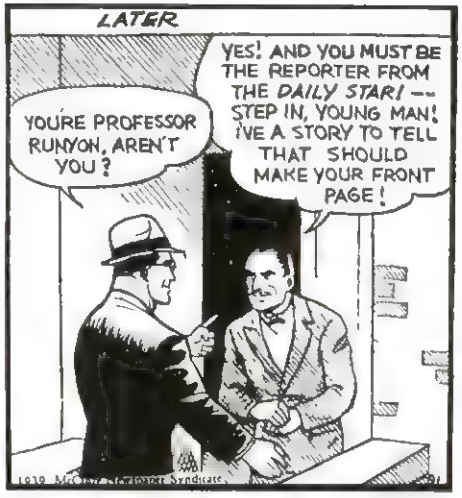
EPISODE SIX

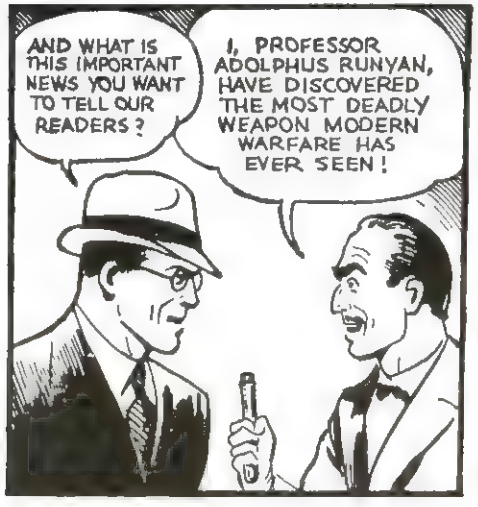
THE MOST DEADLY WEAPON

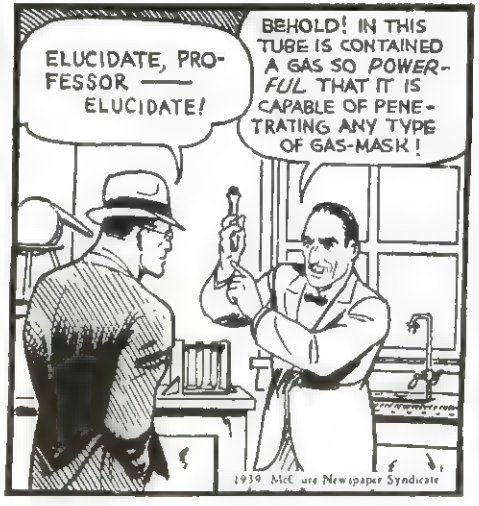
I'VE A GREAT ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU, CLARK. --BIG STORY -- PROBABLY MAKE HISTORY!
LET ME AT IT!

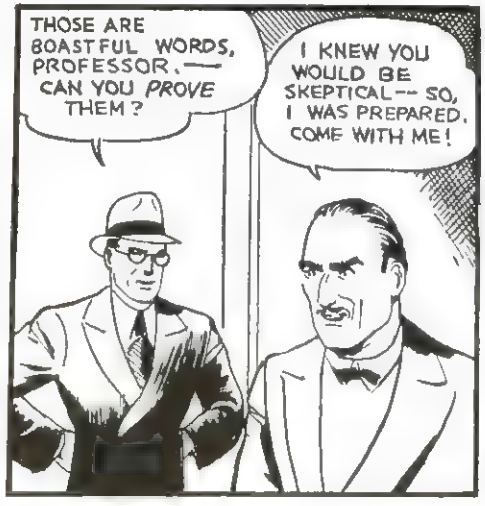
PROFESSOR RUNYAN-- A SCIENTIFIC GENIUS. — DASH OVER TO HIS HOME AND SEE WHAT'S UP!
I GOT YOU, CHIEF! BUT WHAT HAS RUNYAN DONE TO MERIT AN INTERVIEW ?

NOTHING MUCH. HE'S JUST SET THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD ON ITS EARS WITH HIS AMAZING INVENTIONS, THAT'S ALL! -- NOW GET GOING!
AND I SUPPOSE HE'S GOT SOME NEW DISCOVERY TO ANNOUNCE. -- O.K! I'M ON MY WAY!


LATER
YOU'RE PROFESSOR RUNYON, AREN'T YOU ?
YES! AND YOU MUST BE THE REPORTER FROM THE DAILY STAR! -- STEP IN, YOUNG MAN! I'VE A STORY TO TELL THAT SHOULD MAKE YOUR FRONT PAGE!


AND WHAT IS THIS IMPORTANT NEWS YOU WANT TO TELL OUR READERS ?
I, PROFESSOR ADOLPHUS RUNYAN, HAVE DISCOVERED THE MOST DEADLY WEAPON MODERN WARFARE HAS EVER SEEN!


ELUCIDATE, PROFESSOR — ELUCIDATE!
BEHOLD! IN THIS TUBE IS CONTAINED A GAS SO POWERFUL THAT IT IS CAPABLE OF PENETRATING ANY TYPE OF GAS-MASK!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate


THOSE ARE BOASTFUL WORDS, PROFESSOR. — CAN YOU PROVE THEM ?
I KNEW YOU WOULD BE SKEPTICAL -- SO, I WAS PREPARED. COME WITH ME!

PERMIT ME TO INTRODUCE AMBROSE!
SAY! — WHAT IS THIS! A GAG ?

WHAT HAS AMBROSE TO DO WITH YOUR DISCOVERY?
AMBROSE IS GOING TO ILLUSTRATE THE DEADLY POWER OF MY GAS !

AFTER RUNYAN PLACES THE MONKEY WITHIN A GLASS JAR . . .
THE CHAMBER IS FILLING WITH ORDINARY GAS. AS YOU CAN SEE, AMBROSE IS UNAFFECTED!

BUT NOW I RELEASE MY NEW TYPE OF GAS INTO THE JAR! -- WATCH WHAT HAPPENS . . .
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

HE'S DEAD!
RIGHT! MY GAS PENETRATED HIS GAS-MASK! — NOW DO YOU BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT THE WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN A DISCOVERY OF SUCH VAST MILITARY IMPORT?

YOU'VE CERTAINLY GOT SOMETHING THERE, PROFESSOR. WHAT DO YOU INTEND DOING WITH IT?
I'LL TURN IT OVER TO OUR WAR DEPARTMENT -- BUT ONLY IN THE CASE OF A DEFENSIVE WAR!
THINK SO?

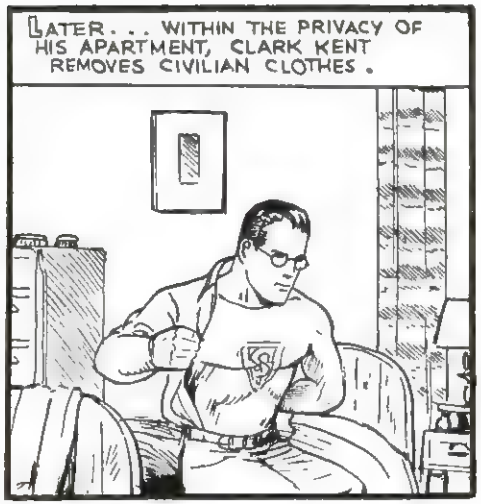
BARTOW!
BEAT IT, YOU!
WE WANT TO SEE THE PROFESSOR -- ALONE..
BUT -- I HAVEN'T FINISHED MY INTERVIEW!

ARE YOU GOING TO SCRAM, OR DO I HAVE TO GET TOUGH?
I — I'LL GO!
THAT'S BETTER!
HE AIN'T SO DUMB AT THAT!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

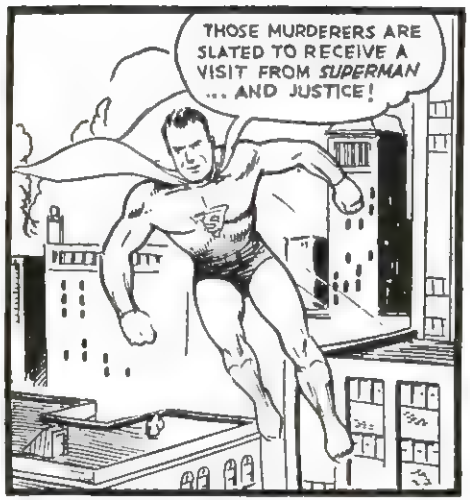
BUT AS HE LEAVES, CLARK PAUSES OUTSIDE THE DOOR TO EAVESDROP WITH HIS SUPER-SENSITIVE EARS . . .
A PROFESSOR WHO HAS INVENTED A TERRIBLY DESTRUCTIVE GAS -- THREE EVIL-LOOKING GENTS -- THE COMBINATION SPELLS TROUBLE!

WHAT CLARK OVERHEARS . . .
WELL -- ARE YOU GOING TO HAND OVER THE FORMULA FOR THE GAS ?
SO THAT YOU CAN SELL IT TO ARMAMENT PROFITEERS ? NOTHING DOING! GET OUT!
YOU'VE TWENTY FOUR HOURS TO TURN THE SECRET FORMULA OVER TO US -- OR ELSE! GET THAT ?
CLARK TRAILS THE INTERNATIONAL RACKETEERS' TAXI . . .
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
. . . TO A BUNGALOW BESIDE A PRIVATE FLYING FIELD.
SO THERE'S WHERE THEY HANG OUT ! HM-M' I'LL JUST KEEP THAT IN MIND !
AFTER CLARK RETURNS TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE . . .
I'LL DASH OFF THIS WRITE-UP OF RUNYAN, THEN RETURN TO BARTOW AND HIS FRIENDS FOR A LITTLE "TALK"!
HERE IT IS, CHIEF . . . THE INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR RUNYAN. — SOME STORY.
JUST A MOMENT WHILE I ANSWER THIS CALL !
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
WHAT'S THAT ? SAY IT AGAIN ! — WELL, I'LL BE BLOWED !
WHAT IS IT, CHIEF ?
RUNYAN'S JUST BEEN FOUND --MURDERED!

RUNYAN -- MURDERED! ...THOSE THREE MEN WHO THREATENED HIM ARE HIS SLAYERS -- NO DOUBT OF IT!
EDITOR PROD. MGR.
97


LATER... WITHIN THE PRIVACY OF HIS APARTMENT, CLARK KENT REMOVES CIVILIAN CLOTHES.

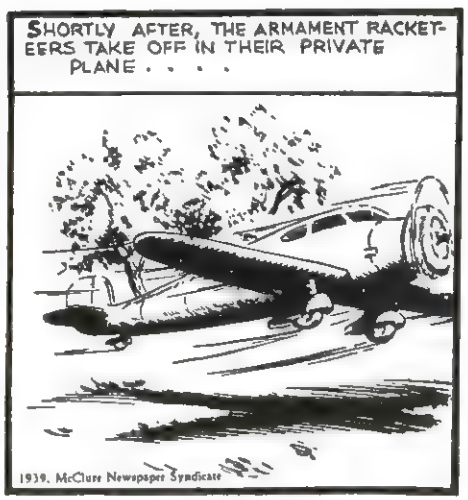
...REVEALING HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME BENEATH!
NOW FOR THEIR HIDEOUT!


THOSE MURDERERS ARE SLATED TO RECEIVE A VISIT FROM SUPERMAN ... AND JUSTICE!

DOWN TOWARDS BARTOW'S BUNGALOW HURTLES A FANTASTIC FIGURE...

WITHIN THE BUNGALOW...
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO KILL RUNYAN AFTER WE GAVE HIM 24 HOURS?
AW, I GOT THERE JUST AS HE WAS ABOUT TO BEAT IT!
C'MON! THE CIVIL WAR IN BORAVIA WON'T WAIT!

BORAVIA -- CIVIL WAR -- SO THAT'S THEIR GAME!


SHORTLY AFTER, THE ARMAMENT RACKETEERS TAKE OFF IN THEIR PRIVATE PLANE....
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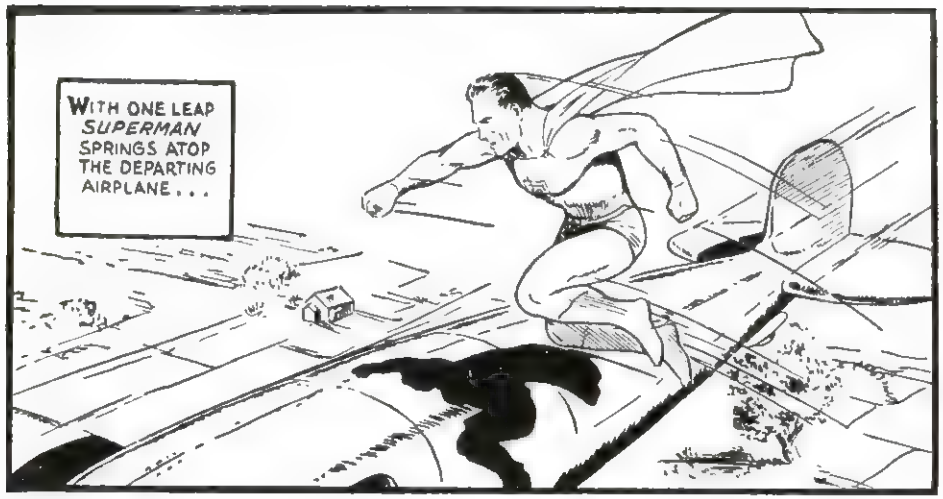
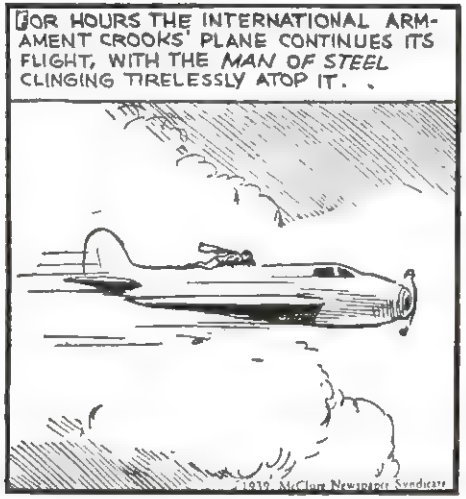

WITH ONE LEAP SUPERMAN SPRINGS ATOP THE DEPARTING AIRPLANE . . .

FOR A MOMENT HE SWAYS . . . ALMOST LOSES HIS FOOTING . . .
OOPS!

. . . BUT REGAINS HIS BALANCE!
I'LL JUST MAKE MYSELF COMFORTABLE; AND BIDE MY TIME!


FOR HOURS THE INTERNATIONAL ARMAMENT CROOKS' PLANE CONTINUES ITS FLIGHT, WITH THE MAN OF STEEL CLINGING TIRELESSLY ATOP IT. .

ARE WE NEAR BORAVIA?
WE'LL REACH IT IN A FEW MOMENTS!
AND THEN, TO CASH IN ON THAT FORMULA!

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER THE AIRPLANE WINGS SWIFTLY OVER BORAVIA, A SMALL COUNTRY EXHAUSTING ITS LIFE BLOOD IN SENSELESS CIVIL WAR . . . .!

SUPERMAN ACTS! — TEARING AT THE PLANE'S METAL SIDES, HE RIPS IT OPEN!
IT'S TIME I HAD A LITTLE TALK WITH BARTOW!

WHAT IN--? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
NEVER MIND! WHAT YOU SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH IS -- WHAT I'LL DO NOW THAT I'M HERE!

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
FIRST... THE FORMULA!

WHAT FORMULA? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
DON'T QUIBBLE! CRACKING YOUR HEAD LIKE AN EGG SHELL WILL BE A MESSY JOB, BUT IF YOU INSIST ON BEING STUBBORN...
1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

COWED BY THE SUDDEN APPARITION, THE RACKETEERS CRAVENLY CRINGE...
YOU'RE LYING! ONE OF YOU HAS THAT FORMULA, AND IF YOU DON'T HAND IT OVER..!
BARTOW'S GOT IT!

DON'T TOUCH ME! I'LL-I'LL GET IT FOR YOU! TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS!
THAT'S BETTER!

BUT AS BARTOW ADVANCES TOWARD A CABINET, A CRAFTY GLEAM LIGHTS HIS EYES. WHAT DOES HIS EVIL BRAIN PLOT?
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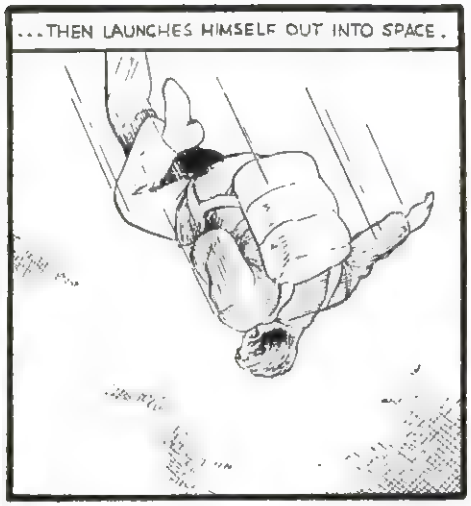
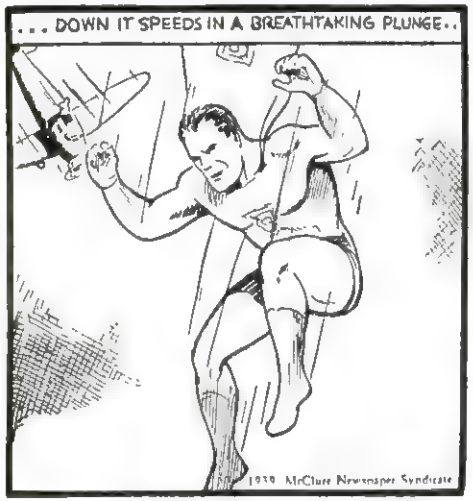
SUDDENLY BARTOW WHIRLS, BLAZING AWAY WITH HIS AUTOMATIC, WRECKING THE PLANE'S CONTROLS.
SUCKER!


...THEN LAUNCHES HIMSELF OUT INTO SPACE.

HO! HO! TRICKING HIM WAS A CINCH!
1938 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

SO HE THINKS I'M DONE FOR, EH? WHAT A SURPRISE HE'S DUE FOR!

A CLOAKED FIGURE HURLS ITSELF OUT FROM THE WRECKED PLANE...


...DOWN IT SPEEDS IN A BREATHTAKING PLUNGE..
1938 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

REMEMBER ME?
HUH!

NOW BEHAVE -- OR I'LL TEAR THE PARACHUTE TO SHREDS, AND WOULDN'T THAT BE TOO BAD... FOR YOU!

WITHIN THE ARMAMENT RACKETEERS' CRIPPLED PLANE . . .
WE'RE GOING TO CRASH!

QUICK! —THE PASSENGERS MAY STILL BE ALIVE!
IT'S BARTOW'S PLANE!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

LUCKY FOR YOU WE CAME ALONG WHEN WE DID! WHERE'S BARTOW?
HE BAILED OUT-- MAY BE IN DANGER-- WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!
I SAW A PARACHUTE DESCENDING NEAR THAT HILL!

AS SUPERMAN AND HIS CAPTIVE ALIGHT...
ARE YOU READY TO GIVE ME THAT FORMULA?
HERE IT IS! BUT WHEN LUBANE, THE MUNITIONS MAGNATE, LEARNS I'VE FUMBLED, MY LIFE WILL BE FORFEIT!

WHEN THE SEARCHING PARTY COMES WITHIN VIEW...
I WARN YOU, IF...!
GIVE IT BACK! I'VE CHANGED MY MIND!

STRANGE! I COULD HAVE SWORN I HIT THE GUY WITH THE CAPE!
CAREFUL YOU DON'T HIT BARTOW!

WANTA PLAY, EH?—COME ON!

AS THE SOLDIERS RAM THEIR BAYONETS AGAINST SUPERMAN'S SUPER-TOUGH SKIN, THEY ARE ASTOUNDED AT WHAT FOLLOWS
G-GOOD GOSH! -- LOOK!
THE BAYONET'S BROKEN!

AT THAT MOMENT--A REBEL PLANE STREAKS DOWNWARD AND RELEASES A DEADLY BOMB TOWARD THE STRUGGLING MEN!
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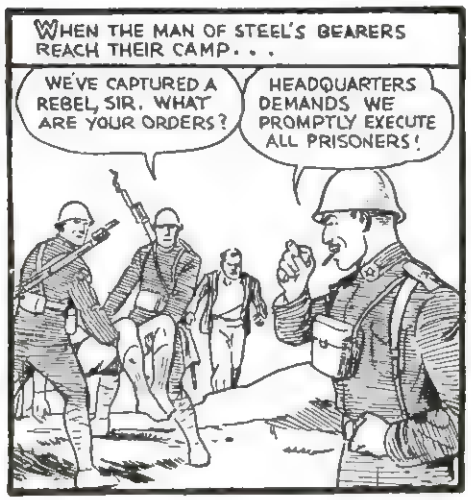
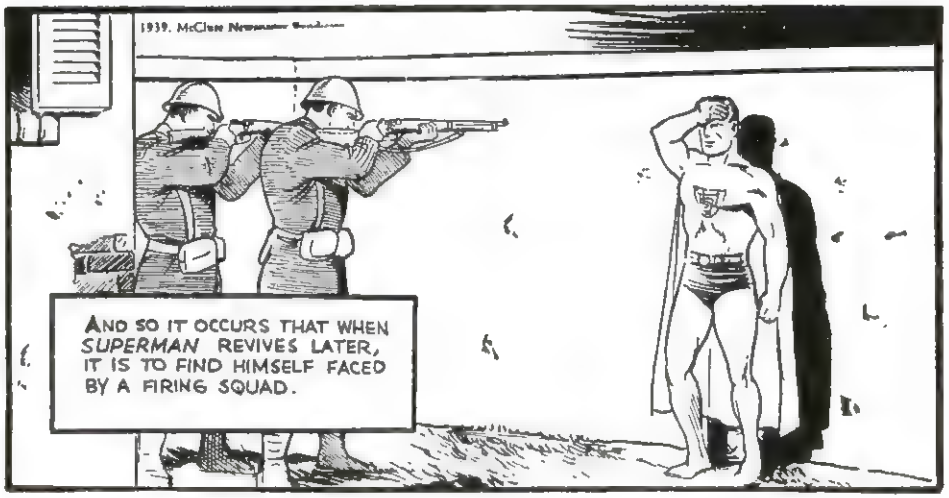
HE'S STILL ALIVE!
GIVE ME A HAND WITH HIM!

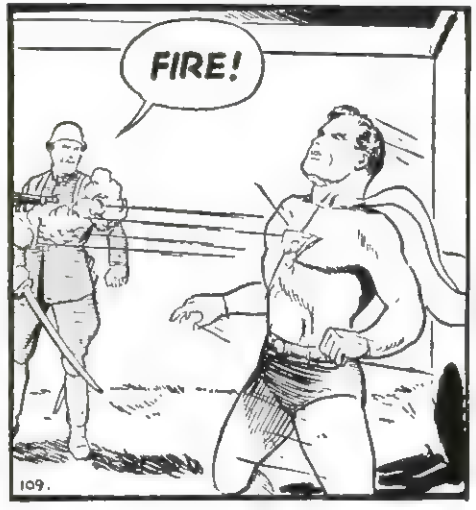

WHEN THE MAN OF STEEL'S BEARERS REACH THEIR CAMP. . .
WE'VE CAPTURED A REBEL, SIR. WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
HEADQUARTERS DEMANDS WE PROMPTLY EXECUTE ALL PRISONERS!

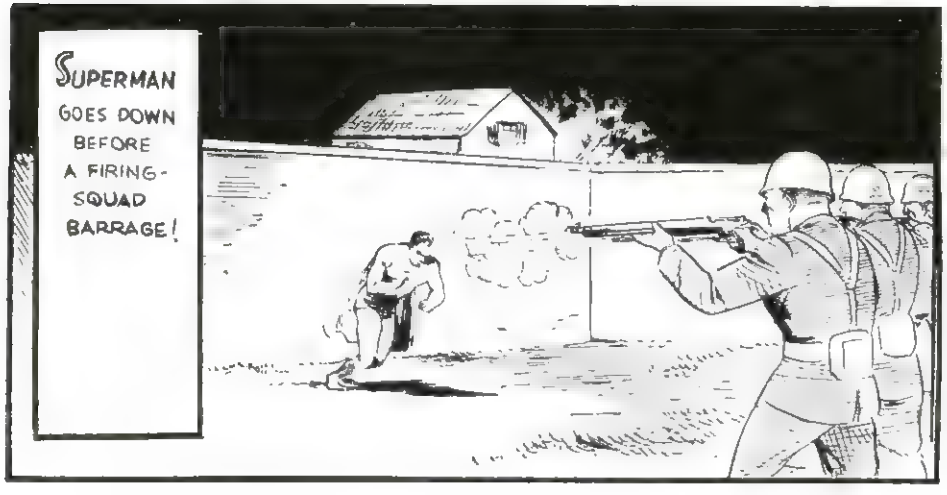

1939. McClure Newspaper Syndicate
AND SO IT OCCURS THAT WHEN SUPERMAN REVIVES LATER, IT IS TO FIND HIMSELF FACED BY A FIRING SQUAD.

YOU DON'T LOOK SO VERY DANGEROUS NOW, UP AGAINST THAT WALL! HAVE YOU ANY LAST WORDS?
YES,— WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE FORMULA?

TURN IT OVER TO LUBANE, THE MUNITIONS MANUFACTURER! — FAREWELL! I LEAVE YOU NOW TO THE CAPTAIN, AND YOUR FATE!
AFTER BARTOW AND HIS TWO HENCHMEN DEPART

READY--AIM--!


FIRE!
109.


SUPERMAN GOES DOWN BEFORE A FIRING-SQUAD BARRAGE!

AS THE SQUAD COMMENCES TO MARCH AWAY. . .
JUST A MINUTE, BOYS!

TRY AGAIN!
?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW ALL OF YOU MISSED HIM -- BUT ONE THING I'M SURE OF: IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

HO-HUM! THIS IS BEGINNING TO BORE ME!

OUR GUNS MUST BE FILLED WITH BLANKS! -OUCH! MY FOOT!

SORRY, I HAVEN'T TIME TO STAND AROUND WHILE YOU WASTE AMMUNITION ON ME!

ALONG THE ROAD RACES SUPERMAN AT A TERRIFIC RATE, SHELLS EXPLODING ABOUT HIM ON ALL SIDES!

SOON AFTER...
A TOWN—UNDER BOMBARDMENT—HELPLESS WOMEN AND CHILDREN BEING KILLED! I'VE GOT TO HELP THEM!

SUPERMAN DASHES TOWARD THE LONG-RANGE CANNON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HAVOC--

--AND SMASHES IT!
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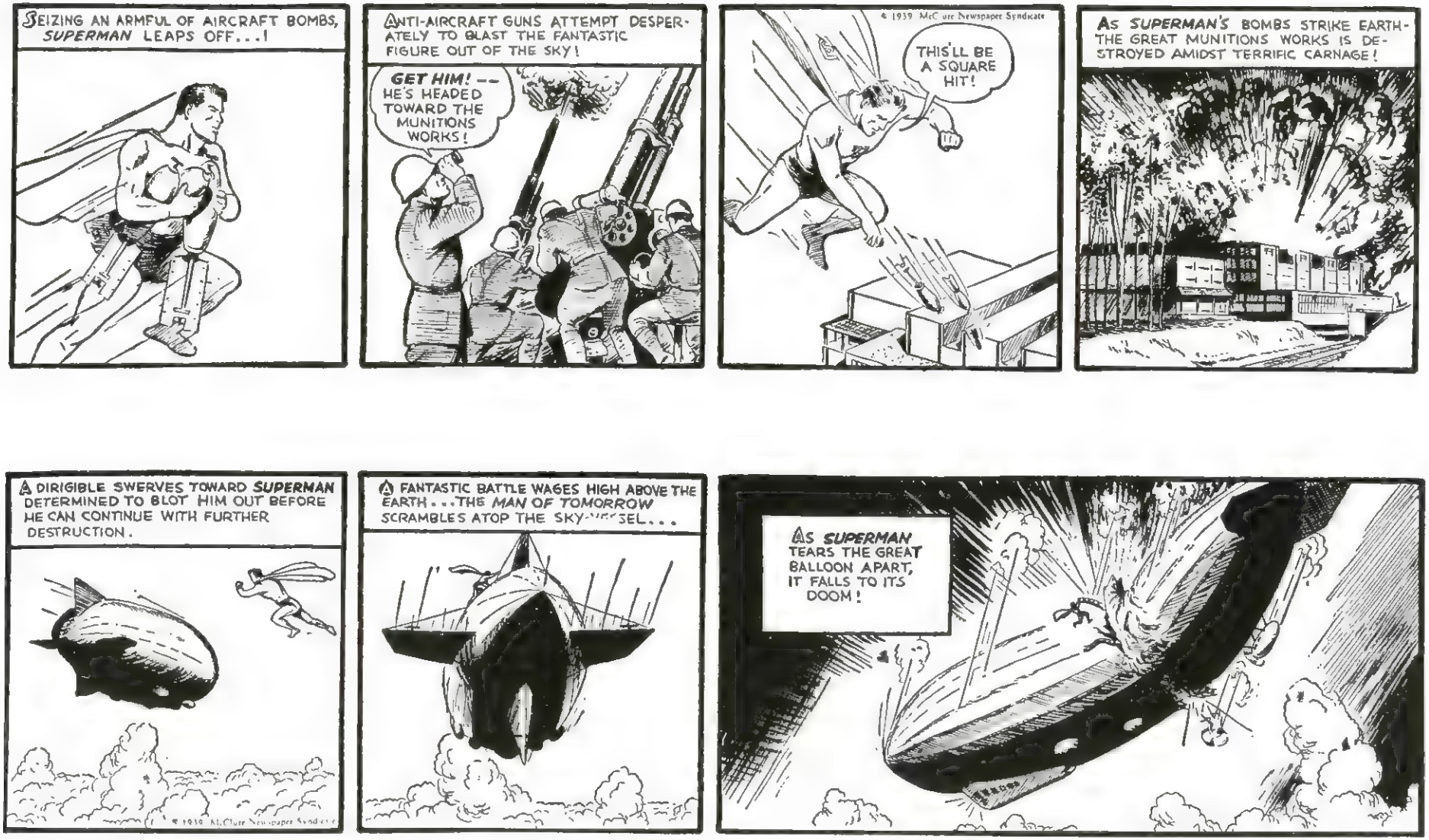
SEIZING AN ARMFUL OF AIRCRAFT BOMBS, SUPERMAN LEAPS OFF...!
ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS ATTEMPT DESPERATELY TO BLAST THE FANTASTIC FIGURE OUT OF THE SKY!
GET HIM! -- HE'S HEADED TOWARD THE MUNITIONS WORKS!
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THIS'LL BE A SQUARE HIT!
AS SUPERMAN'S BOMBS STRIKE EARTH- THE GREAT MUNITIONS WORKS IS DESTROYED AMIDST TERRIFIC CARNAGE!
A DIRIGIBLE SWERVES TOWARD SUPERMAN DETERMINED TO BLOT HIM OUT BEFORE HE CAN CONTINUE WITH FURTHER DESTRUCTION.
A FANTASTIC BATTLE WAGES HIGH ABOVE THE EARTH...THE MAN OF TOMORROW SCRAMBLES ATOP THE SKY-VESSEL...
AS SUPERMAN TEARS THE GREAT BALLOON APART, IT FALLS TO ITS DOOM!

MEANWHILE -- A FEW MINUTES PREVIOUS TO SUPERMAN'S AIR-RAID . . .
BARTOW! -- YOU'RE SOONER THAN I EXPECTED!
YES, LUBANE! AND WE'VE HAD SEVERAL HAIR-RAISING EXPERIENCES!

NEVER MIND ABOUT THAT! IF YOU'VE GOT THE FORMULA, GIVE IT TO ME!
HERE IT IS! -- WE WERE FORCED TO USE -- ER-- DRASTIC METHODS TO SECURE IT!

TAKE THIS FORMULA TO THE LABORATORY AND HURRY IT BACK WITH A SAMPLE OF THE GAS!
YES, SIR!

AFTER THE ASSISTANT DEPARTS -- ABRUPTLY -- THE ROOM IS ROCKED BY A SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS!
WH-WHAT'S THAT?
WE'RE BEING BOMBED!
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THOSE EXPLOSIONS! WHAT'S HAPPENING -- WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

A MAN -- LEAPING THRU THE SKY -- DROPPING BOMBS? YOU MUST BE MAD!
GOOD GRIEF! SUPERMAN -- STILL ALIVE!
HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE FIRING SQUAD!
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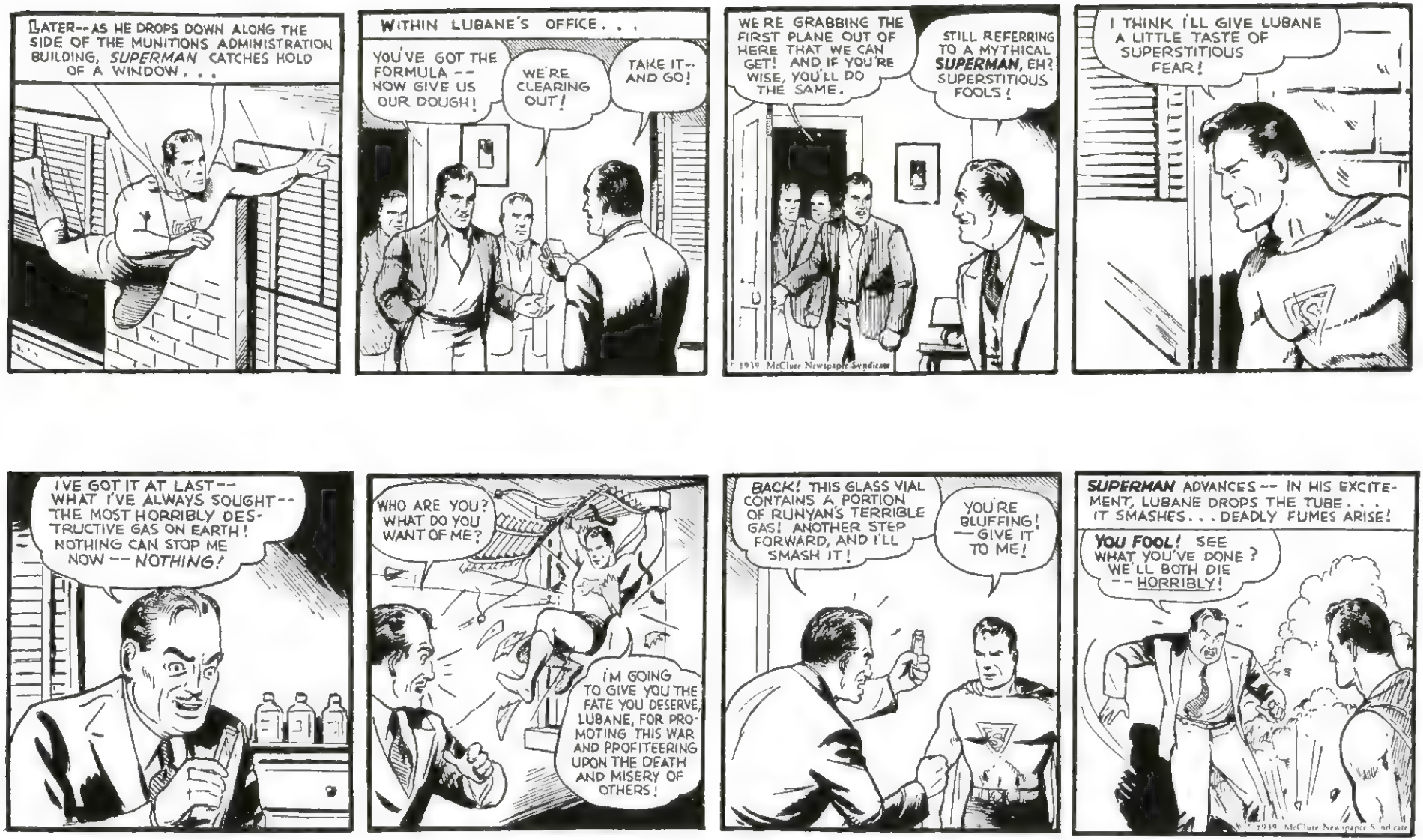
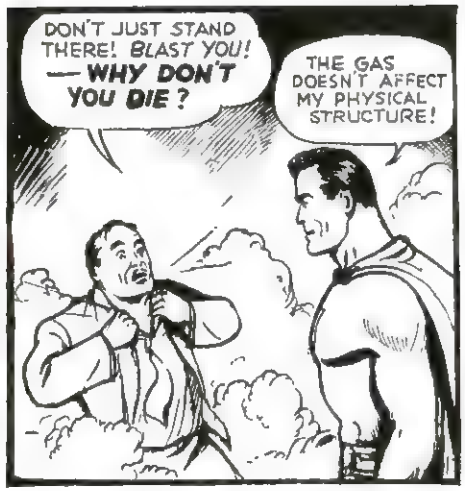
SUPERMAN? WHO'S THAT?
OUR NEMESIS -- A MAN POSSESSING TERRIFIC STRENGTH. HE'S AFTER THE FORMULA!
HERE'S THE GAS AND FORMULA AS YOU REQUESTED.

SUPERMAN, EH? WELL, WHOEVER HE IS, HE CAN'T FRIGHTEN ME! AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS GAS, I NEED FEAR NO ONE!


LATER--AS HE DROPS DOWN ALONG THE SIDE OF THE MUNITIONS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, SUPERMAN CATCHES HOLD OF A WINDOW . . .
WITHIN LUBANE'S OFFICE . . .
YOU'VE GOT THE FORMULA -- NOW GIVE US OUR DOUGH!
WE'RE CLEARING OUT!
TAKE IT-- AND GO!
WE'RE GRABBING THE FIRST PLANE OUT OF HERE THAT WE CAN GET! AND IF YOU'RE WISE, YOU'LL DO THE SAME.
STILL REFERRING TO A MYTHICAL SUPERMAN, EH? SUPERSTITIOUS FOOLS!
I THINK I'LL GIVE LUBANE A LITTLE TASTE OF SUPERSTITIOUS FEAR!
I'VE GOT IT AT LAST-- WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SOUGHT-- THE MOST HORRIBLY DESTRUCTIVE GAS ON EARTH! NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW -- NOTHING!
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THE FATE YOU DESERVE, LUBANE, FOR PROMOTING THIS WAR AND PPOFITEERING UPON THE DEATH AND MISERY OF OTHERS!
BACK! THIS GLASS VIAL CONTAINS A PORTION OF RUNYAN'S TERRIBLE GAS! ANOTHER STEP FORWARD, AND I'LL SMASH IT!
YOU'RE BLUFFING! —GIVE IT TO ME!
SUPERMAN ADVANCES -- IN HIS EXCITEMENT, LUBANE DROPS THE TUBE . . . IT SMASHES . . . DEADLY FUMES ARISE!
YOU FOOL! SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE? WE'LL BOTH DIE -- HORRIBLY!

HELP ME!...THE PAIN...I-I'M CHOKING... I CAN'T BREATHE!
YOU'RE ONLY GETTING A TASTE OF THE FATE YOU PLANNED TO DOOM OTHERS TO!


DON'T JUST STAND THERE! BLAST YOU! —WHY DON'T YOU DIE?
THE GAS DOESN'T AFFECT MY PHYSICAL STRUCTURE!

ONE LESS VULTURE! HE WON'T NEED THIS FORMULA ANY LONGER!
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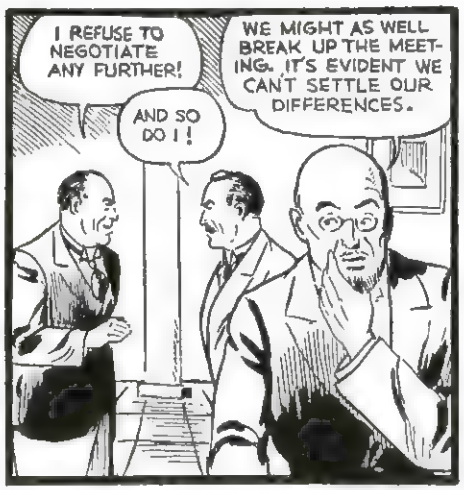
AND NOW— FOR THE TOUGHEST TASK OF ALL!

SHORTLY AFTER--DOWN STREAKS SUPERMAN TOWARD A BUILDING WITHIN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO WARRING FACTIONS HAVE ASSEMBLED TO DISCUSS PEACE.

WITHIN A GREAT HALL OF THE BUILDING
GENTLEMEN! WE'VE GOT TO COME TO TERMS! WE MUSTN'T PERMIT THIS BLOODSHED TO CONTINUE!
WE'LL FIGHT UNTIL WE GET OUR TERMS!
BUT THEY'RE PREPOSTEROUS!


I REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE ANY FURTHER!
AND SO DO I!
WE MIGHT AS WELL BREAK UP THE MEETING. IT'S EVIDENT WE CAN'T SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES.

I BEG TO DIFFER! NONE OF YOU WILL LEAVE THIS HALL UNTIL YOU COME TO TERMS!

HOW DARE YOU BREAK IN HERE? GET OUT!
SO YOU NEED A LITTLE PERSUASION, EH?

SEIZING ONE OF THE FOUR PILLARS WHICH SUPPORT THE WALLS, SUPERMAN TEARS AT IT. . .
A GUY NAMED SAMSON ONCE HAD THE SAME IDEA!

AS SUPERMAN TEARS AT THE PILLAR, FRAGMENTS OF THE CEILING RAIN DOWN ABOUT THE AGHAST MEN!
STOP IT!
YOU—YOU'LL KILL US ALL!
I THOUGHT YOU'D UNDERSTAND THIS BETTER THAN MERE WORDS!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

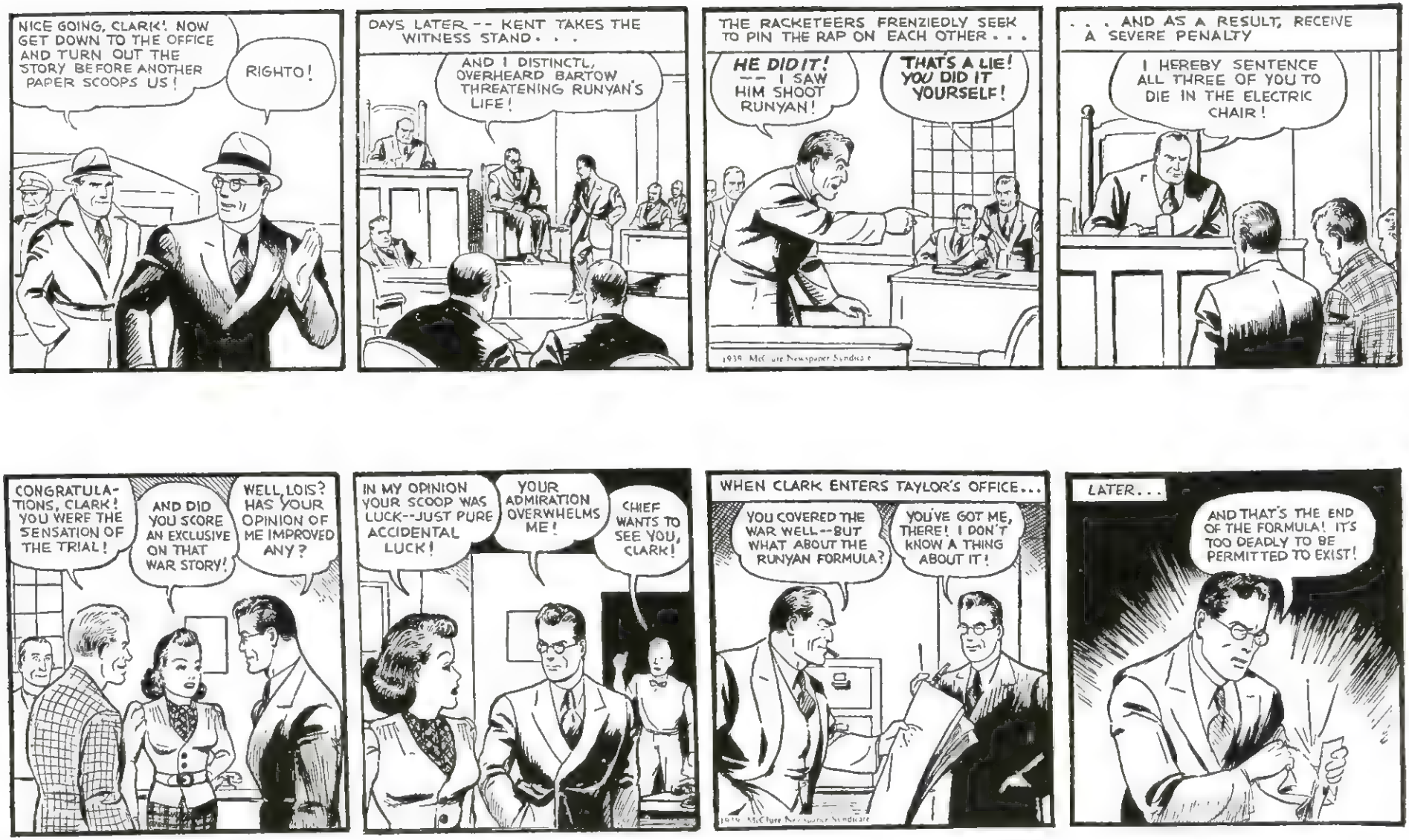
DEMOLISHING THREE OF THE FOUR PILLARS THAT SUPPORT THE ROOF IS A SIMPLE TASK FOR SUPERMAN!

CONTINUE WITH YOUR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS OR I'LL SMASH THE REMAINING PILLAR--BRINGING THE ENTIRE ROOF DOWN ON YOU!
NO, DON'T!
IF WE VALUE OUR LIVES, WE'VE GOT TO DO AS HE SAYS!
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

AND SO THE DISCUSSION IS FORCIBLY CONTINUED UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYES OF SUPERMAN!
GO ON! SAY THAT YOUR DEMANDS ARE SELFISH AND ABSURD!
I--ER WITHDRAW MY ABSURD DEMANDS
AND I FIND THE REMAINDER OF YOUR TERMS ACCEPTABLE!
GENTLEMEN, SINCE YOU'VE REACHED AN AMICABLE AGREEMENT, WE CAN ALL SIGN THE PEACE TREATY!

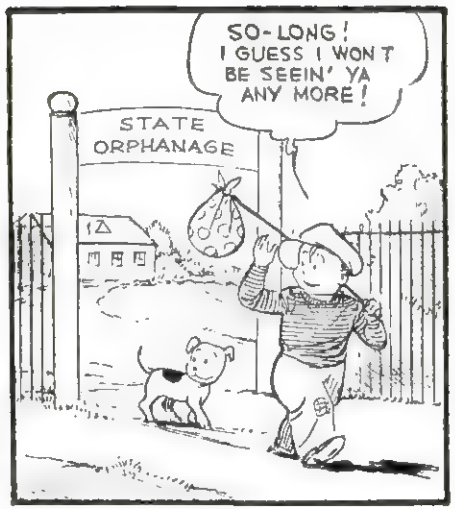
SHORTLY AFTER, THE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE MAKES AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO CHEERING THRONGS. . .
THE WAR IS OVER! THE COMMITTEE HAS AGREED ON PEACE!

DISAPPEARING DURING THE EXCITEMENT, SUPERMAN DONS CIVILIAN GARMENTS AND WALKS THRU THE REJOICING CITY TO THE AIRPORT.
AND TO THINK THAT JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO THESE HAPPY PEOPLE WERE UNDER THE DREAD SHADOW OF WAR!
BARTOW AND HIS FRIENDS -- ABOUT TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES! HOW FORTUNATE... FOR ME!
AMERICAN TELEGRAPH
GEORGE TAYLOR, EDITOR, DAILY STAR, METROPOLIS, N.Y.
BORAVIAN CIVIL WAR ENDS IN TRUCE. RETURNING ON AIRLINER 7-X WITH MURDERERS OF RUNYAN. MEET US AT AIRPORT WITH POLICE.
CLARK KENT
1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
WITH THE PLANE ABOUT TO LEAVE IN A FEW MOMENTS, CLARK HURRIEDLY DISPATCHES A TELEGRAM . . .
MY EDITOR OUGHT TO BE TICKLED TO GET THAT!
TOWARD THE U.S. WINGS THE GREAT BORAVIAN AIRLINER
WITHIN IT, THRU THE LONG HOURS OF THE VOYAGE, CLARK KEEPS BARTOW'S MEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? WE'VE A FORTUNE IN CASH ON US AND YOU PERSIST IN ACTING JITTERY!
I CAN'T HELP IT-- WHEN I THINK OF SUPERMAN STILL BEING ALIVE.
OH, SNAP OUT OF IT!
AS METROPOLIS IS REACHED . . .
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR THE MURDER OF ADULPHUS RUNYAN!
BUT -- BUT THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE! WHO MAKES THIS RIDICULOUS CHARGE?
AIRLINES
I DO! -- AND YOU WON'T THINK IT SO RIDICULOUS WHEN A COURT OF LAW MAKES YOU PAY FOR YOUR CRIME!


NICE GOING, CLARK! NOW GET DOWN TO THE OFFICE AND TURN OUT THE STORY BEFORE ANOTHER PAPER SCOOPS US!
RIGHTO!
DAYS LATER -- KENT TAKES THE WITNESS STAND . . .
AND I DISTINCTL, OVERHEARD BARTOW THREATENING RUNYAN'S LIFE!
THE RACKETEERS FRENZIEDLY SEEK TO PIN THE RAP ON EACH OTHER . . .
HE DID IT! -- I SAW HIM SHOOT RUNYAN!
THAT'S A LIE! YOU DID IT YOURSELF!
. . . AND AS A RESULT, RECEIVE A SEVERE PENALTY
I HEREBY SENTENCE ALL THREE OF YOU TO DIE IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!
CONGRATULATIONS, CLARK! YOU WERE THE SENSATION OF THE TRIAL!
AND DID YOU SCORE AN EXCLUSIVE ON THAT WAR STORY!
WELL, LOIS? HAS YOUR OPINION OF ME IMPROVED ANY?
IN MY OPINION YOUR SCOOP WAS LUCK--JUST PURE ACCIDENTAL LUCK!
YOUR ADMIRATION OVERWHELMS ME!
CHIEF WANTS TO SEE YOU, CLARK!
WHEN CLARK ENTERS TAYLOR'S OFFICE...
YOU COVERED THE WAR WELL--BUT WHAT ABOUT THE RUNYAN FORMULA?
YOU'VE GOT ME, THERE! I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT IT!
LATER...
AND THAT'S THE END OF THE FORMULA! IT'S TOO DEADLY TO BE PERMITTED TO EXIST!

EPISODE SEVEN
SUPERMAN AND THE RUNAWAY

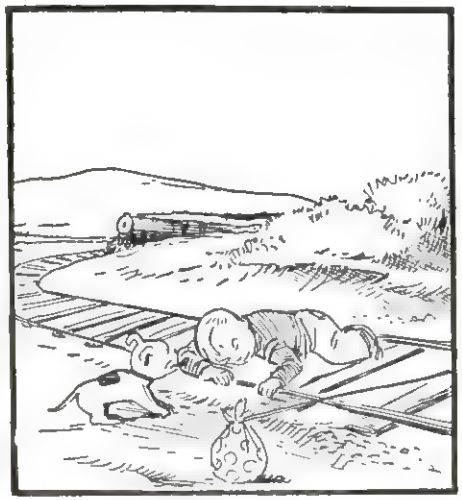
DAYBREAK -- A SMALL FIGURE STEALTHILY SLIPS FROM THE STATE ORPHANAGE'S DORMITORY. . .
SH-HH! — WANTA GIVE ME AWAY?


SO-LONG! I GUESS I WON'T BE SEEIN' YA ANY MORE!
STATE ORPHANAGE

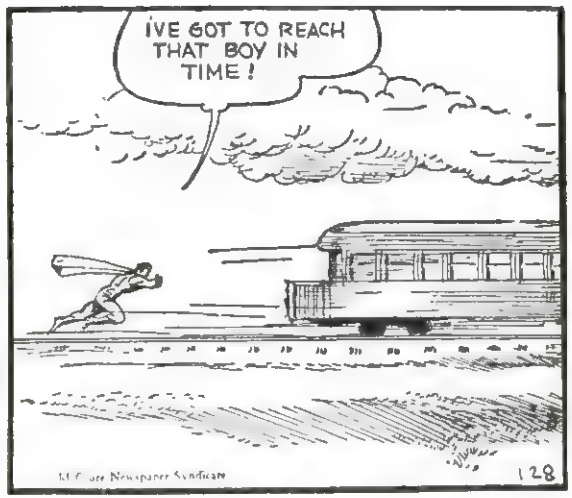
GOSH! IT'S HOT! . . . W-WISH I COULDA ET SOMETHIN' BEFORE I LEFT!
127

OVERCOME BY HUNGER, FATIGUE, AND HEAT, THE CHILD COLLAPSES. . .
OH-HHH!

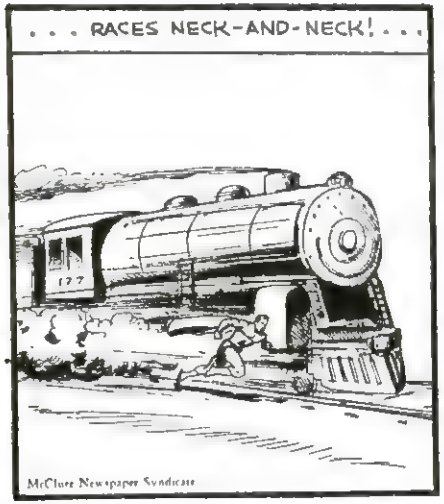
AS CLARK KENT, ACE DAILY STAR REPORTER, WALKS TO WORK, HE SIGHTS. . .
GOOD GRIEF!

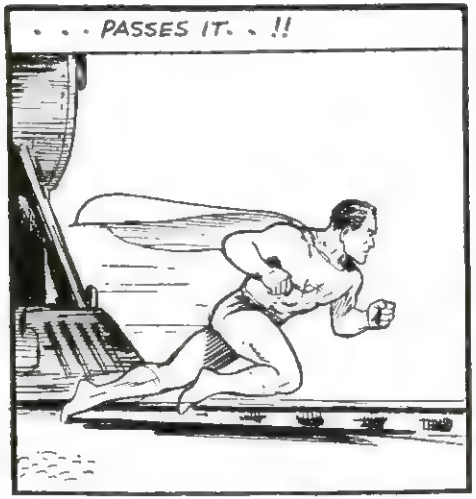


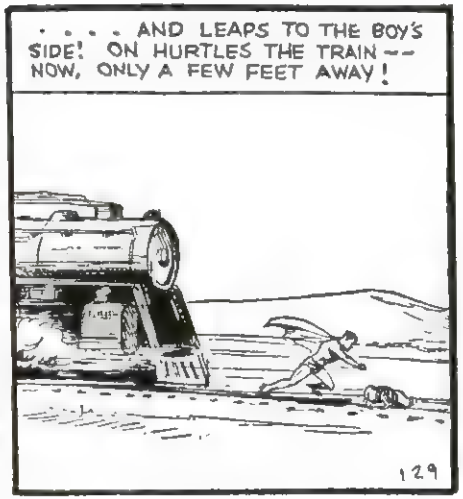
SWIFTLY REMOVING HIS OUTER GARMENTS, CLARK IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE DYNAMIC MAN OF TOMORROW: SUPERMAN!
NOT AN INSTANT TO LOSE!

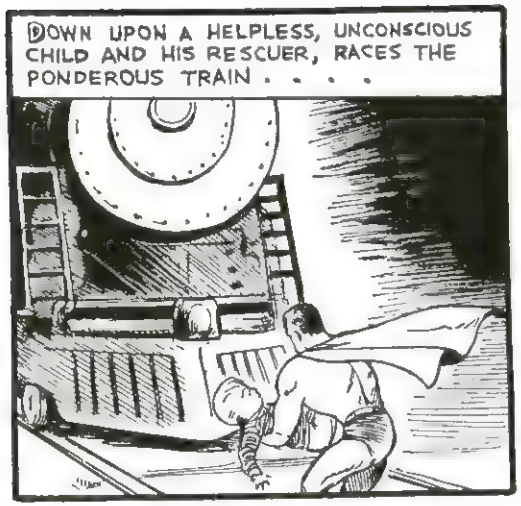

I'VE GOT TO REACH THAT BOY IN TIME!
128

RACING AT A TERRIFIC RATE OF SPEED, SUPERMAN OVERTAKES THE TRAIN . . .

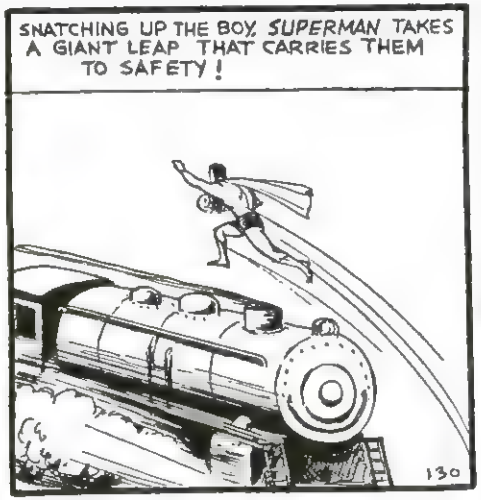

. . . RACES NECK-AND-NECK! . . .
McClure Newspaper Syndicate


. . . PASSES IT . . !!


. . . . AND LEAPS TO THE BOY'S SIDE! ON HURTLES THE TRAIN -- NOW, ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY!
129


DOWN UPON A HELPLESS, UNCONSCIOUS CHILD AND HIS RESCUER, RACES THE PONDEROUS TRAIN . . . .

TOO LATE FOR ME TO STOP! —THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE!


SNATCHING UP THE BOY, SUPERMAN TAKES A GIANT LEAP THAT CARRIES THEM TO SAFETY!
130

AS THE TRAIN GRINDS TO A HALT, EXCITED PASSENGERS AND TRAINMEN POUR OUT!
THAT WAS THE MOST AMAZING RESCUE I EVER WITNESSED! BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE MY SENSES!
W-WHERE ARE THEY?
GONE! THEY LEAPED COMPLETELY OUT OF SIGHT!

A TREMENDOUS JUMP CARRIES SUPERMAN FAR FROM THE SCENE OF HIS DARING RESCUE!
JUST AS HE AGAIN ASSUMES HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, THE CHILD REVIVES.
W-WHAT H-HAPPENED?
NEVER MIND,— BUT WHAT MADE YOU PASS OUT LIKE YOU DID?

HUNGER. I HAVEN'T EATEN IN TWO DAYS!
WE'LL SOON FIX THAT! COME WITH ME!

JUST LOOK AT YOU GULP DOWN THAT FOOD! YOU MUST BE STARVING!
MM-MM— YOU SAID IT!
LUNCH

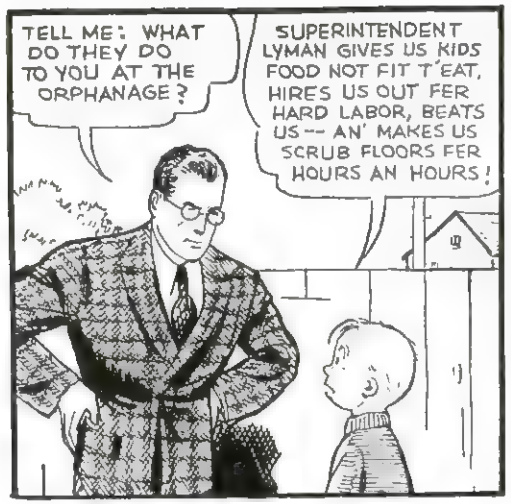
WELL, G'BYE! AN' THANKS FER THAT SWELL FEED, MISTER!
WAIT! MIND ANSWERING A FEW QUESTIONS?
LUNCH
131

I'M CLARK KENT, REPORTER ON THE DAILY STAR. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SON?
FRANKIE, SIR. FRANKIE DENNIS!
132

WHERE DO YOU LIVE, FRANKIE?— I'LL TAKE YOU HOME!
LEMME GO! I AIN'T GOTTA HOME, I TELL YA!

YOU'RE NOT RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME, ARE YOU, FRANKIE?
HOME? YA WOULDN'T CALL A PLACE WHERE TH' SUPERINTENDENT BEATS, AN' STARVES, AN' SLAVEDRIVES YA "HOME," WOULD YA?

I WON'T GO BACK TO THAT STATE ORPHANAGE! DO YA HEAR-- I WON'T!
("—STATE ORPHANAGE, EH? —HM-MM! SOUNDS LIKE THERE MIGHT BE A STORY HERE!—")


TELL ME: WHAT DO THEY DO TO YOU AT THE ORPHANAGE?
SUPERINTENDENT LYMAN GIVES US KIDS FOOD NOT FIT T'EAT, HIRES US OUT FER HARD LABOR, BEATS US -- AN' MAKES US SCRUB FLOORS FER HOURS AN HOURS!

THAT'S A PRETTY NASTY STATE OF AFFAIRS! -- CERTAIN YOU'RE NOT LYING?
IT'S TRUE -- EVERY WORD OF IT! PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME GO BACK TO THAT ORPHANAGE, MISTER!
133

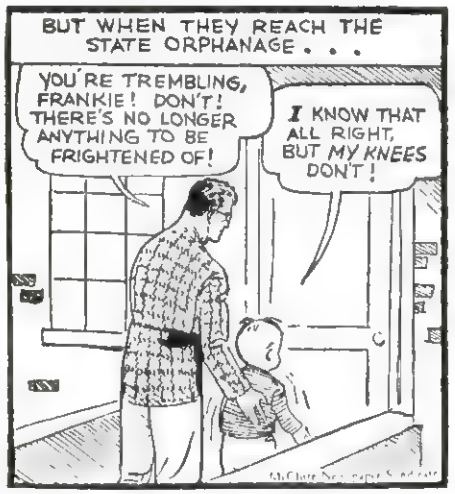
LOOK -- IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP, BUT I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT YOUR ASSISTANCE!
ME HELP? WHY IF I WAS TO GO BACK NOW TH' SUPERINTENDENT WOULD HAVE IT IN FER ME TWICE AS MUCH!

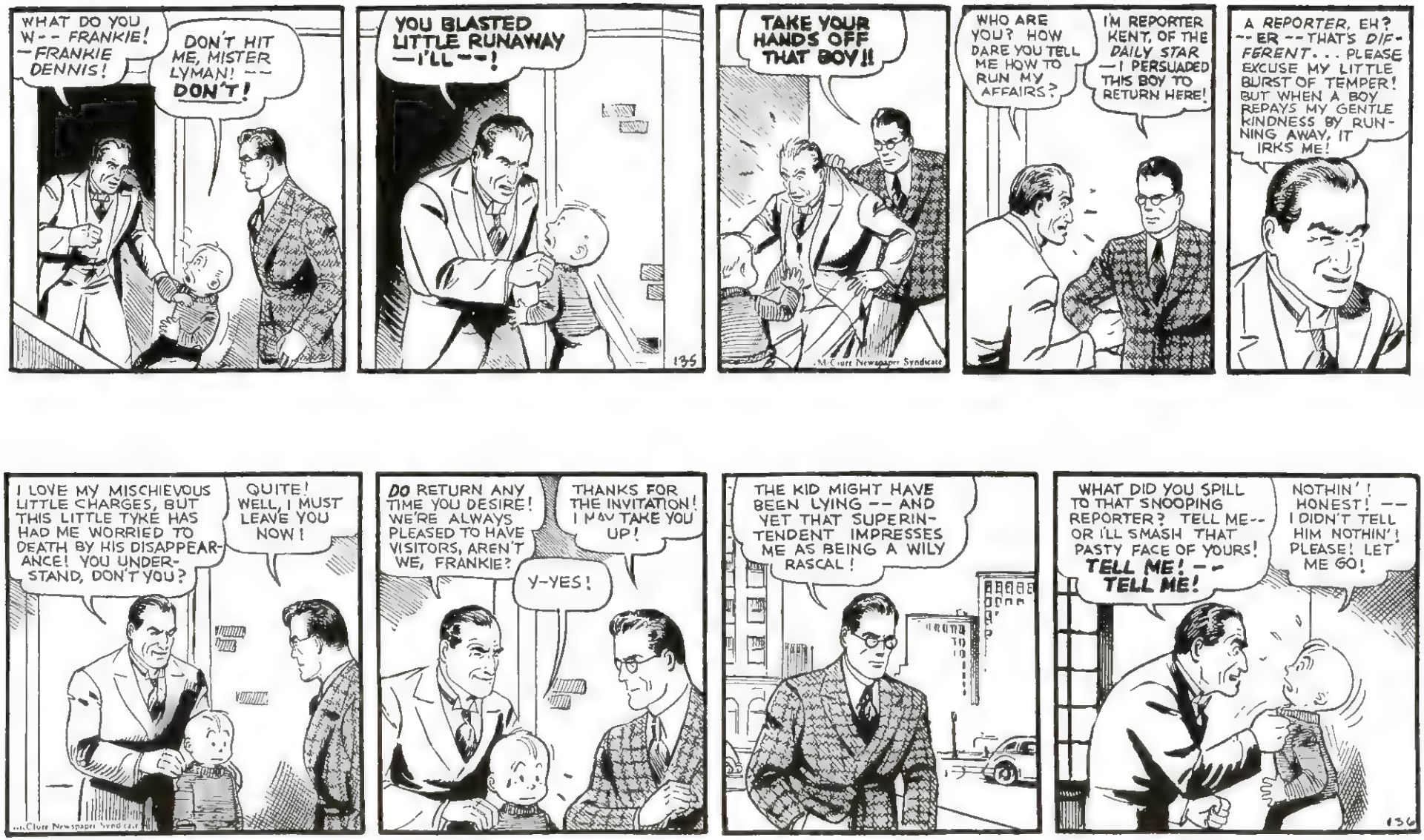
BUT THINK OF ALL THE OTHER CHILDREN BACK THERE AT THE ORPHANAGE! SURELY, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET THEM DOWN JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID?

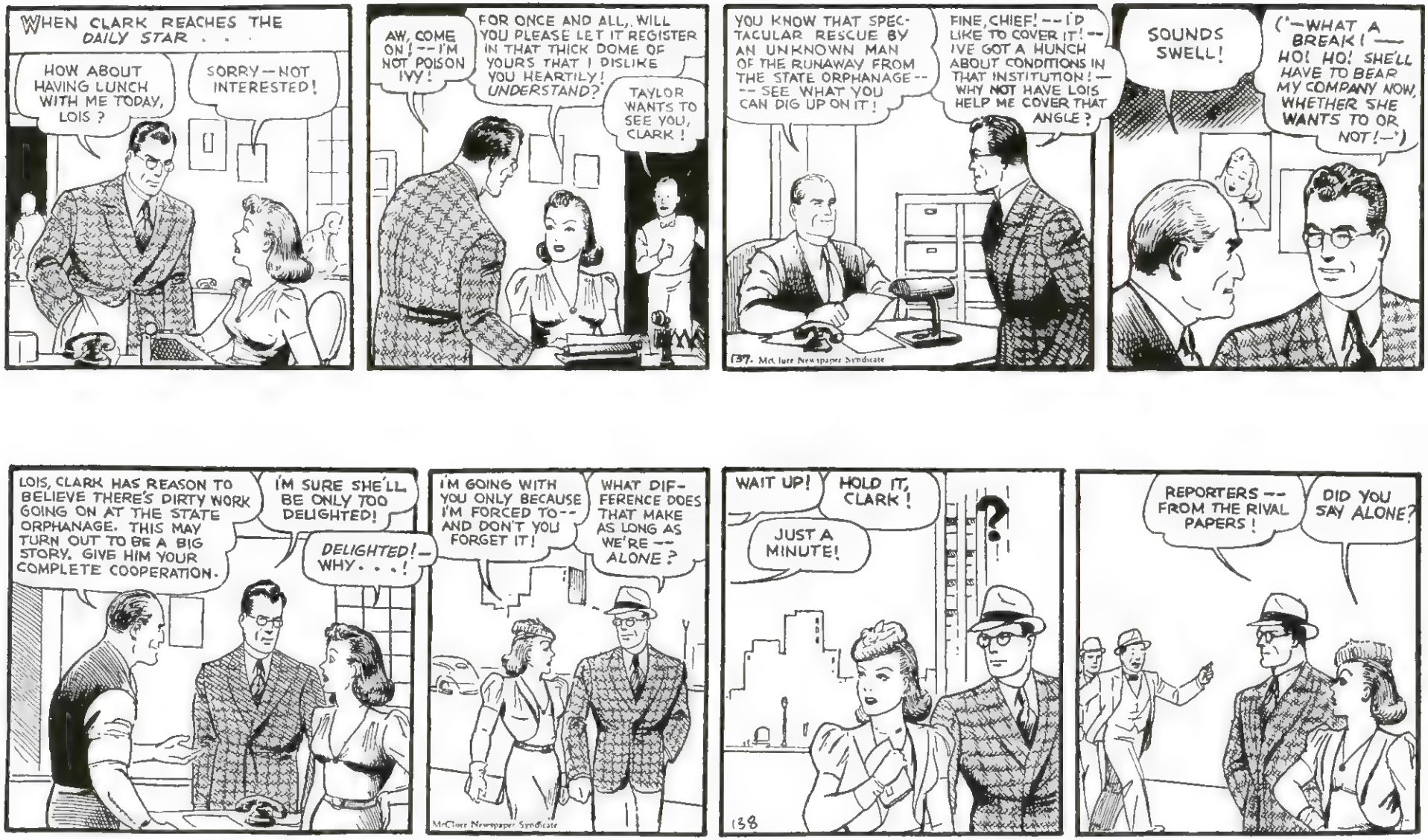
B-BUT HOW WOULD MY GOIN' BACK TO TH' ORPHANAGE HELP TH' KIDS?
YOU WOULD BE MY UNDERCOVER MAN -- A SORT OF DETECTIVE -- AND REPORT BACK TO ME ALL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S UNJUST ACTS.
134

FRANKIE'S INNER STRUGGLE IS REFLECTED UPON HIS FEATURES! -- TO RETURN TO THAT LOATHSOME SLAVERY ?? ...OR CLING TO HIS PRECIOUS FREEDOM ?? ...
?

I'LL DO IT! I—I'LL GO BACK!
STOUT FELLOW! —I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T ABANDON YOUR FRIENDS!


BUT WHEN THEY REACH THE STATE ORPHANAGE...
YOU'RE TREMBLING, FRANKIE! DON'T! THERE'S NO LONGER ANYTHING TO BE FRIGHTENED OF!
I KNOW THAT ALL RIGHT, BUT MY KNEES DON'T!


WHAT DO YOU W-- FRANKIE! —FRANKIE DENNIS!
DON'T HIT ME, MISTER LYMAN! -- DON'T!
YOU BLASTED LITTLE RUNAWAY —I'LL --!
135
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THAT BOY!!
WHO ARE YOU? HOW DARE YOU TELL ME HOW TO RUN MY AFFAIRS?
I'M REPORTER KENT, OF THE DAILY STAR —I PERSUADED THIS BOY TO RETURN HERE!
A REPORTER, EH? --ER --THAT'S DIFFERENT... PLEASE EXCUSE MY LITTLE BURST OF TEMPER! BUT WHEN A BOY REPAYS MY GENTLE KINDNESS BY RUNNING AWAY, IT IRKS ME!
I LOVE MY MISCHIEVOUS LITTLE CHARGES, BUT THIS LITTLE TYKE HAS HAD ME WORRIED TO DEATH BY HIS DISAPPEARANCE! YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU?
QUITE! WELL, I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW!
DO RETURN ANY TIME YOU DESIRE! WE'RE ALWAYS PLEASED TO HAVE VISITORS, AREN'T WE, FRANKIE?
Y-YES!
THANKS FOR THE INVITATION! I MAY TAKE YOU UP!
THE KID MIGHT HAVE BEEN LYING -- AND YET THAT SUPERINTENDENT IMPRESSES ME AS BEING A WILY RASCAL!
WHAT DID YOU SPILL TO THAT SNOOPING REPORTER? TELL ME-- OR I'LL SMASH THAT PASTY FACE OF YOURS! TELL ME! -- TELL ME!
NOTHIN'! HONEST! -- I DIDN'T TELL HIM NOTHIN'! PLEASE! LET ME GO!
136


WHEN CLARK REACHES THE DAILY STAR . . .
HOW ABOUT HAVING LUNCH WITH ME TODAY, LOIS ?
SORRY—NOT INTERESTED!
AW, COME ON! -- I'M NOT POISON IVY!
FOR ONCE AND ALL, WILL YOU PLEASE LET IT REGISTER IN THAT THICK DOME OF YOURS THAT I DISLIKE YOU HEARTILY! UNDERSTAND?
TAYLOR WANTS TO SEE YOU, CLARK!
YOU KNOW THAT SPECTACULAR RESCUE BY AN UNKNOWN MAN OF THE RUNAWAY FROM THE STATE ORPHANAGE -- -- SEE WHAT YOU CAN DIG UP ON IT!
FINE, CHIEF! -- I'D LIKE TO COVER IT! -- I'VE GOT A HUNCH ABOUT CONDITIONS IN THAT INSTITUTION! — WHY NOT HAVE LOIS HELP ME COVER THAT ANGLE?
137. McClure Newspaper Syndicate
SOUNDS SWELL!
("—WHAT A BREAK! — HO! HO! SHE'LL HAVE TO BEAR MY COMPANY NOW, WHETHER SHE WANTS TO OR NOT!—")
LOIS, CLARK HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THERE'S DIRTY WORK GOING ON AT THE STATE ORPHANAGE. THIS MAY TURN OUT TO BE A BIG STORY. GIVE HIM YOUR COMPLETE COOPERATION.
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE ONLY TOO DELIGHTED!
DELIGHTED!— WHY. . . !
I'M GOING WITH YOU ONLY BECAUSE I'M FORCED TO-- AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THAT MAKE AS LONG AS WE'RE -- ALONE?
McClure Newspaper Syndicate
WAIT UP!
HOLD IT, CLARK!
JUST A MINUTE!
138
REPORTERS -- FROM THE RIVAL PAPERS!
DID YOU SAY ALONE?

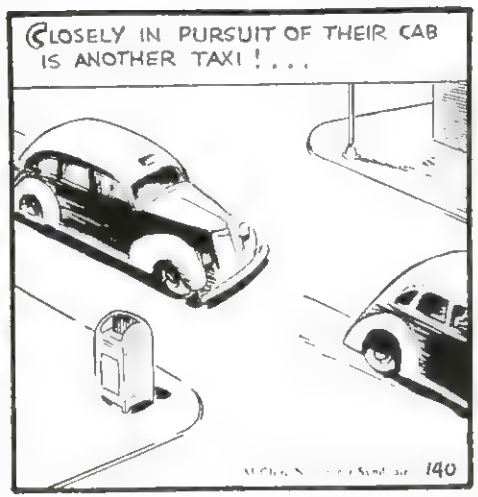
HELLO...IF IT ISN'T MY BELOVED CONTEMPORARIES! NICE DAY, ISN'T IT? -- WELL, SEE YOU LATER!
NOT SO FAST! — WHAT'S THE HURRY?
CAN'T CLARK AND I HAVE A LUNCHEON DATE WITHOUT YOU RIVAL NEWS-HOUNDS BUTTING IN?

LUNCHEON DATE, EH? YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE ON THE TRACK OF AN IMPORTANT NEWS STORY, COULD YOU?
WITH YOUR IMAGINATION, YOU SHOULD WRITE FICTION!
AW, COME ON CLARKSIE, DON'T BE SELFISH! WHAT'S UP?

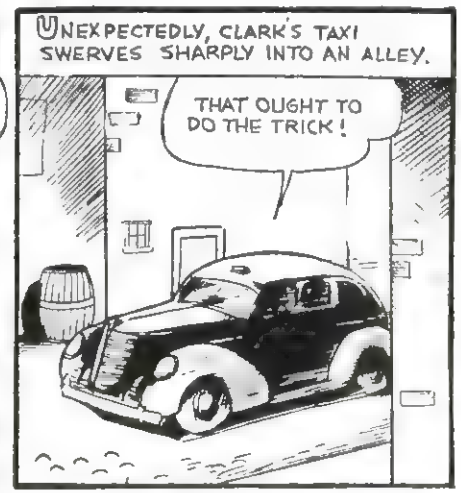
NOTHING, I TELL YOU!
WELL...MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT!

WHEW! — I THOUGHT WE'D NEVER GET RID OF THEM!
IM NOT SO POSITIVE WE HAVE!
139

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT SO POSITIVE WE DODGED THOSE REPORTERS?
TAKE A LOOK BACK...AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

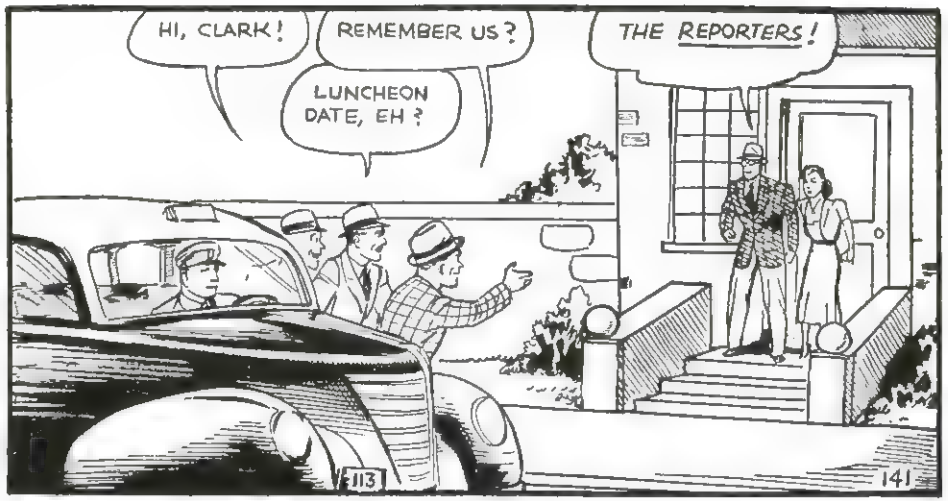

CLOSELY IN PURSUIT OF THEIR CAB IS ANOTHER TAXI!...
140

THEY'RE TRAILING US!
WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED! SHAKE OFF THE TAXI BEHIND US AND THERE'S A FIVE SPOT IN IT FOR YOU.
LEAVE IT TO ME!


UNEXPECTEDLY, CLARK'S TAXI SWERVES SHARPLY INTO AN ALLEY.
THAT OUGHT TO DO THE TRICK!

GOSH, I THOUGHT WE'D NEVER SHAKE OFF THOSE REPORTERS!
BUT WE DID!
McClure Newspaper Syndicate

LATER . . . WHEN THEY REACH THE STATE ORPHANAGE . . .
REMEMBER, LOIS! GIVE LYMAN NO REASON TO SUSPECT YOU BELIEVE ANYTHING AMISS!
I CAN JUST PICTURE THE FACES OF THOSE REPORTERS WHEN THEY READ OUR SCOOP IN THE DAILY STAR!

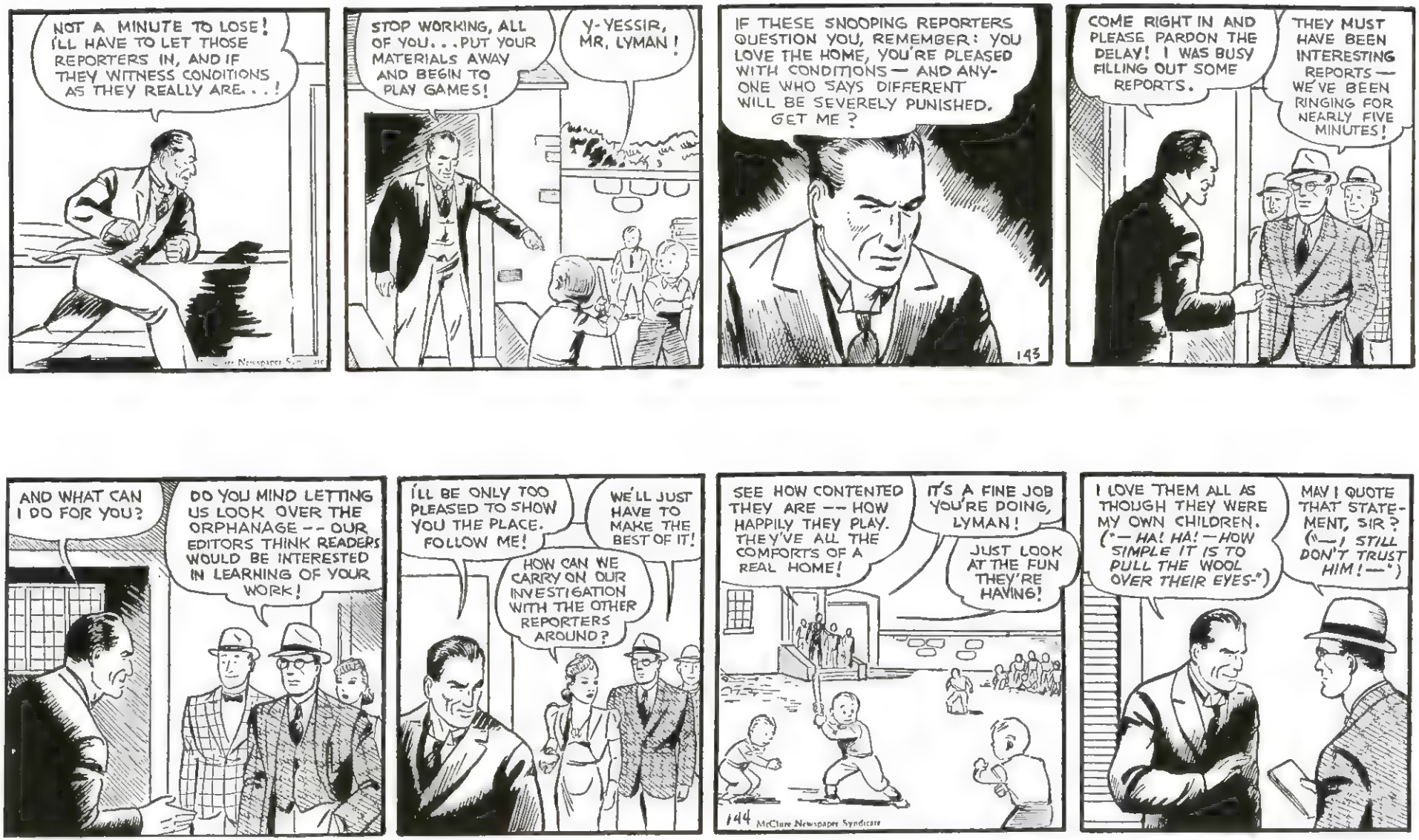

HI, CLARK!
REMEMBER US?
LUNCHEON DATE, EH?
THE REPORTERS!
113
141

OF ALL THE DIRTY TRICKS -- YOU DELIBERATELY FOLLOWED US!
YOU KNOW THE OLD SAYING: "ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE, WAR, AND GATHERING THE NEWS"!

OUT TRYING TO HOLD OUT ON US! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE AT THE ORPHANAGE?
NOTHING MUCH! THIS IS GOING TO BE JUST A ROUTINE FEATURE STORY!
THAT'S WHY WE DIDN'T BOTHER TO TELL YOU OF IT!
WHEN A RIVAL REPORTER GETS MAGNANIMOUS, IT AROUSES THE SUSPICIOUS STREAK IN ME.

WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE ANSWER THE DOOR? YOU'VE BEEN RINGING IT LONG ENOUGH.
THE DOORBELL ISN'T OUT OF ORDER . . . CAN HEAR IT RINGING.

NEWSPAPERMEN! — I'VE GOT TO THINK FAST!
142


NOT A MINUTE TO LOSE! I'LL HAVE TO LET THOSE REPORTERS IN, AND IF THEY WITNESS CONDITIONS AS THEY REALLY ARE...!
STOP WORKING, ALL OF YOU...PUT YOUR MATERIALS AWAY AND BEGIN TO PLAY GAMES!
Y-YESSIR, MR. LYMAN!
IF THESE SNOOPING REPORTERS QUESTION YOU, REMEMBER: YOU LOVE THE HOME, YOU'RE PLEASED WITH CONDITIONS — AND ANYONE WHO SAYS DIFFERENT WILL BE SEVERELY PUNISHED. GET ME?
143
COME RIGHT IN AND PLEASE PARDON THE DELAY! I WAS BUSY FILLING OUT SOME REPORTS.
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN INTERESTING REPORTS — WE'VE BEEN RINGING FOR NEARLY FIVE MINUTES!
AND WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
DO YOU MIND LETTING US LOOK OVER THE ORPHANAGE -- OUR EDITORS THINK READERS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING OF YOUR WORK!
I'LL BE ONLY TOO PLEASED TO SHOW YOU THE PLACE. FOLLOW ME!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT!
HOW CAN WE CARRY ON OUR INVESTIGATION WITH THE OTHER REPORTERS AROUND?
SEE HOW CONTENTED THEY ARE -- HOW HAPPILY THEY PLAY. THEY'VE ALL THE COMFORTS OF A REAL HOME!
IT'S A FINE JOB YOU'RE DOING, LYMAN!
JUST LOOK AT THE FUN THEY'RE HAVING!
144 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
I LOVE THEM ALL AS THOUGH THEY WERE MY OWN CHILDREN. ("— HA! HA! — HOW SIMPLE IT IS TO PULL THE WOOL OVER THEIR EYES-")
MAY I QUOTE THAT STATEMENT, SIR? ("— I STILL DON'T TRUST HIM! —")

HELLO, LITTLE GIRL! WHAT'S YOUR NAME? -- HOW DO YOU LIKE IT HERE?
I—I LIKE IT FINE. MR. LYMAN'S VERY GOOD TO US. HE NEVER HITS US, OR ANYTHING!

JUST LOOK AT THAT BRUISE ON YOUR ARM. HOW DID YOU GET IT?
I—I . . .

DON'T BE FRIGHTENED. TELL ME: WHERE DID YOU GET THAT MARK?
I -- I FELL DOWN!
145

THE CHILD'S TREMBLING AS THOUGH SHE WERE IN TERRIBLE FEAR OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE. I WONDER. DID SHE FALL OR WAS SHE STRUCK?

LOOKING THROUGH THE ORPHANS' QUARTER, LOIS FINDS A CHILD CONFINED TO ITS BED . . .
YOU LOOK WAN AND WEAK! — WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
I GUESS I'M TIRED OUT FROM PLAYIN' TOO MUCH.

YOU'RE SURE THERE'S NO OTHER REASON?
POSITIVE, MISS! ("—I DON'T DARE TELL HER I'M LAID UP FROM WORKIN' TOO HARD —")

PS-ST! — MR. KENT!
146

WHAT IS IT FRANKIE?
THERE'S SOMETHIN' I GOTTA TELL YA AN' I HAVEN'T MUCH TIME!
146

WHAT DO YOU WISH TO TELL ME, FRANKIE ?
IT'S ABOUT MR. LYMAN HE WARNED THE KIDS THA OMIGOSH!

WHAT'S WRONG? WHY DON'T YOU GO ON ?
I GOT NOTHIN' TO TELL YA . . . HONEST, I AIN'T!
147

IF YOU WISHED TO TELL MR KENT SOMETHING, FRANKIE, — GO RIGHT AHEAD!
N-NO! THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' I GOTTA SAY!

WELL, ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH YOUR INSPECTION ?
QUITE. I GUESS WE MIGHT AS WELL LEAVE NOW. ("— I WONDER WHAT FRANKIE WAS GOING TO REVEAL?—")

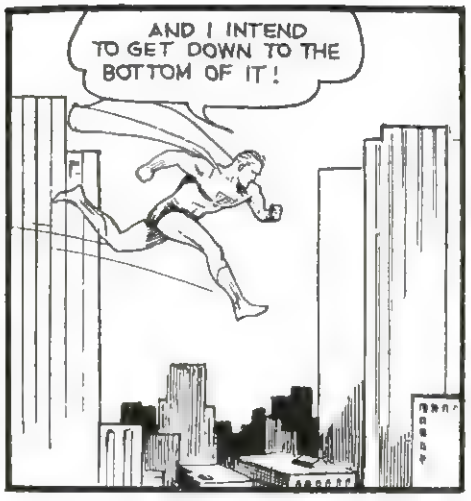
SO THAT WAS YOUR GREAT YARN
NOT SO HOT, IF YOU ASK ME!
YOU SEE, IT'S JUST AS I TOLD YOU. NOTHING BUT A MEDIOCRE FEATURE STORY!

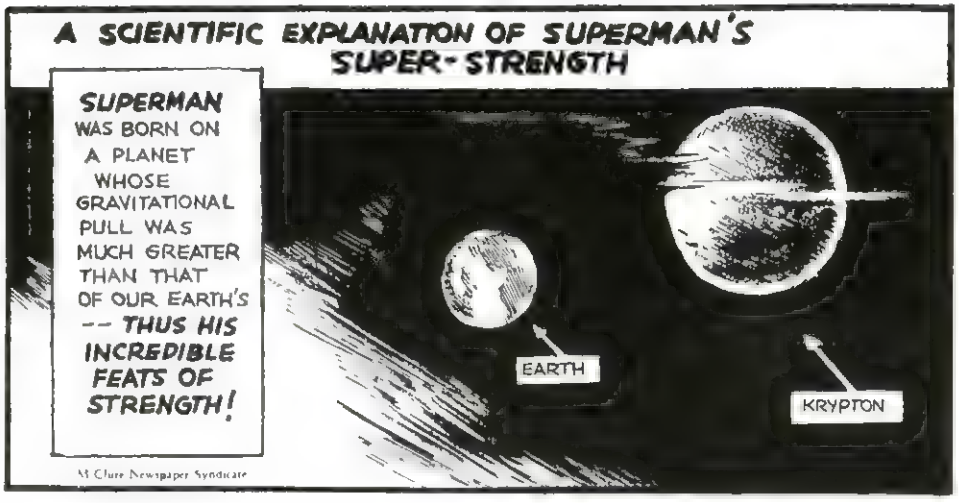
WELL, WHATEVER BECAME OF YOUR HUNCH THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING AMISS AT THE STATE ORPHANAGE?
I STILL THINK THAT SUPERINTENDENT ISN'T ON THE LEVEL!

AS SOON AS THE REPORTERS LEAVE — —
STOP THAT LOAFING. ALL OF YOU -- BACK TO WORK! — AND AS FOR YOU . . .
DON'T! YOU'RE HURTING ME!

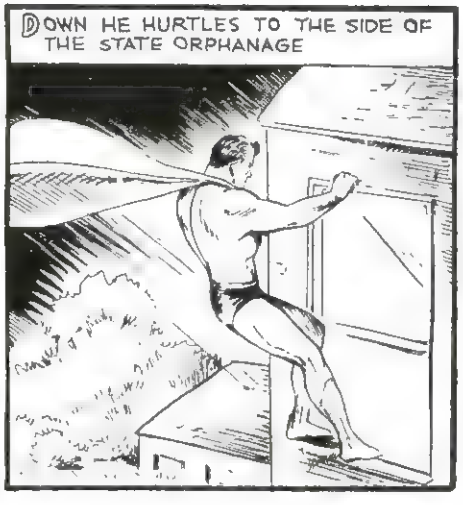
I'LL JUST LOCK YOU HERE IN THE ATTIC UNTIL YOU LEARN TO KEEP THAT TRAP OF YOURS SHUT!
148

THAT EVENING . . . CLARK REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS REVEALING HIS TRUE IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN, CHAMPION OF THE OPPRESSED . . .
THERE'S MORE TO THAT ORPHANAGE THAN MEETS THE EYE . . .

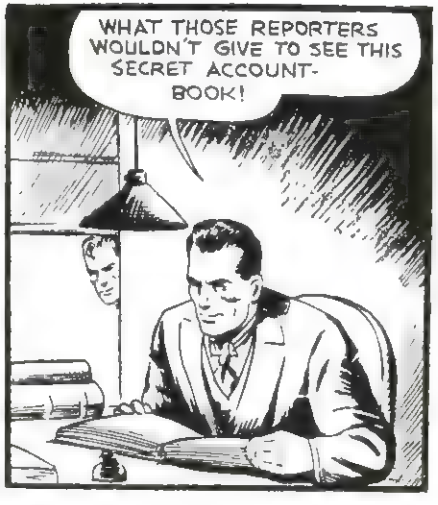

AND I INTEND TO GET DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF IT!

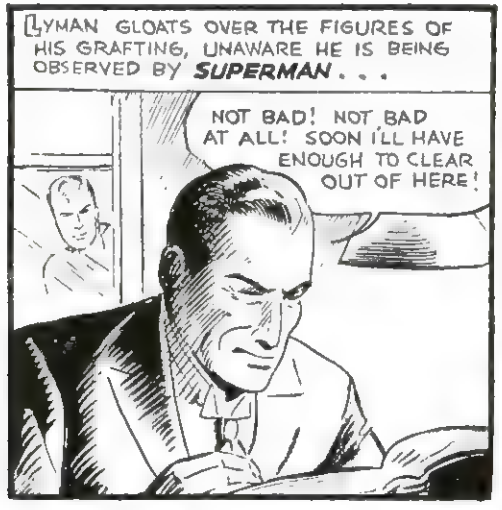

A SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION OF SUPERMAN'S SUPER-STRENGTH
SUPERMAN WAS BORN ON A PLANET WHOSE GRAVITATIONAL PULL WAS MUCH GREATER THAN THAT OF OUR EARTH'S -- THUS HIS INCREDIBLE FEATS OF STRENGTH!
EARTH
KRYPTON
St Clair Newspaper Syndicate

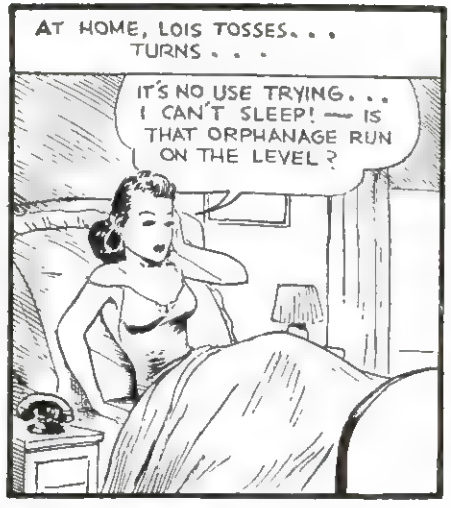
HIGH OVER THE CITY STREAKS A FANTASTIC PHANTOM OF THE NIGHT: SUPERMAN!


DOWN HE HURTLES TO THE SIDE OF THE STATE ORPHANAGE

IT'S LYMAN . . . CHECKING OVER HIS BOOKS!
151


WHAT THOSE REPORTERS WOULDN'T GIVE TO SEE THIS SECRET ACCOUNT-BOOK!

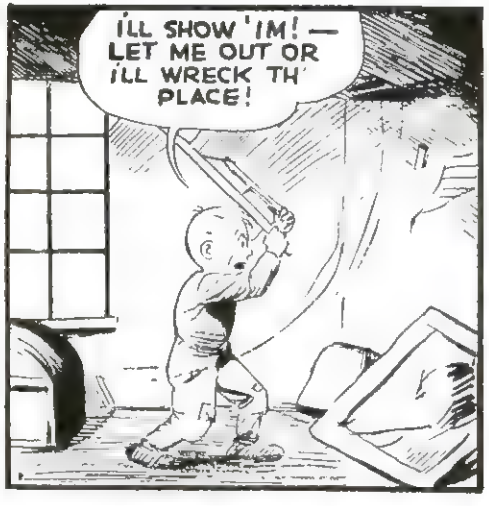

LYMAN GLOATS OVER THE FIGURES OF HIS GRAFTING, UNAWARE HE IS BEING OBSERVED BY SUPERMAN . . .
NOT BAD! NOT BAD AT ALL! SOON I'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO CLEAR OUT OF HERE!


AT HOME, LOIS TOSSES. . . TURNS . . .
IT'S NO USE TRYING. . . I CAN'T SLEEP! — IS THAT ORPHANAGE RUN ON THE LEVEL?

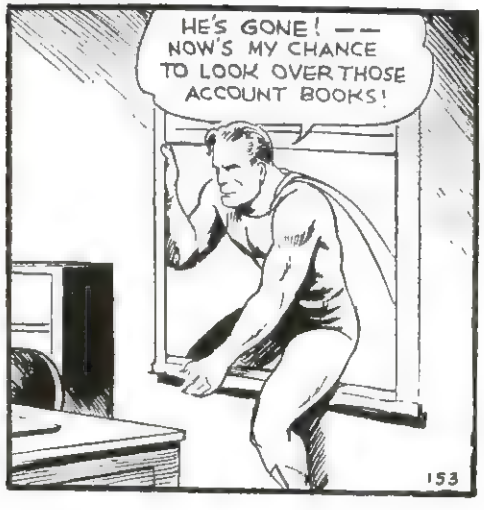
AND LOCKED IN THE ORPHANAGE ATTIC . . .
W-WHERE AM I?
152

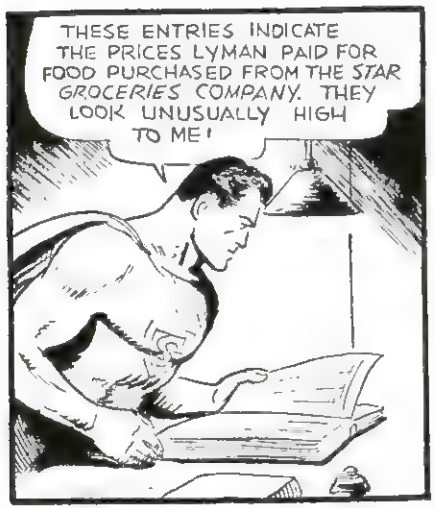
OPEN THIS DOOR! LEMME OUT! — I WON'T STOP YELLIN' TILL YA LET ME OUT!

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?


I'LL SHOW 'IM! — LET ME OUT OR I'LL WRECK TH' PLACE!

IT'S THAT BRAT UP IN THE ATTIC! I'LL FIX HIM!


HE'S GONE! — NOW'S MY CHANCE TO LOOK OVER THOSE ACCOUNT BOOKS!
153


THESE ENTRIES INDICATE THE PRICES LYMAN PAID FOR FOOD PURCHASED FROM THE STAR GROCERIES COMPANY. THEY LOOK UNUSUALLY HIGH TO ME!

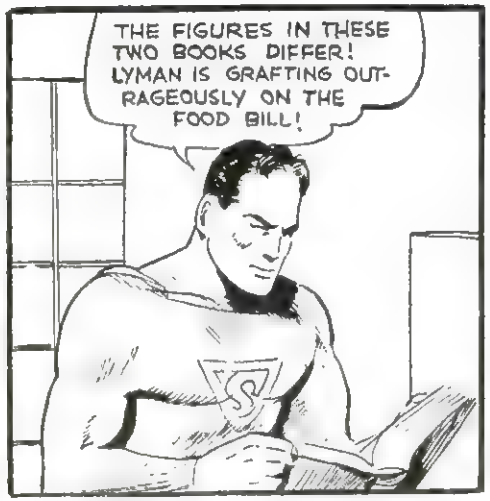
I'LL JUST CHECK UP!
154

I'M PROBABLY BEING AN UTTER FOOL, BUT I'M GOING BACK TO THE STATE ORPHANAGE TO LOOK IT OVER WHILE THE SUPERINTENDENT IS OFF-GUARD!

YOU LITTLE TROUBLE-MAKER! I'LL LASH THE HIDE OFF YOU!
NO!-- DON'T!

ON THE ROOF OF THE STAR GROCERIES COMPANY, SUPERMAN PRIES OPEN THE SKYLIGHT, ENTERS . . .
155

. . . THEN FORCES THE COMPANY'S STEEL FILES!
I DISLIKE WRECKING THEIR EQUIPMENT BUT IT'S NECESSARY!


THE FIGURES IN THESE TWO BOOKS DIFFER! LYMAN IS GRAFTING OUTRAGEOUSLY ON THE FOOD BILL!

I'VE ALL THE PROOF I NEED! NOW TO GIVE LYMAN WHAT HE DESERVES!

STEALTHILY, LOIS BREAKS INTO THE STATE ORPHANAGE
I'LL LOOK LIKE A PERFECT FOOL IF NOTHING IS AMISS!
156
McClure Newspaper Syndicate

TAKE THAT, YOU SNIVELLING BRAT! I'LL TEACH YOU DISCIPLINE!
OH-H-H! STOP IT PLEASE!

THE INMATES OF THE ORPHANAGE COWER IN THEIR BEDS AT THE SOUND OF FRANKIE'S PAINFUL SHRIEKS . . .
IT'S THE SUPERINTENDENT . . . BEATIN' FRANKIE!
I'M SCARED!

. . . AN UNEXPECTED INTERLOPER HEARS THE CRIES
WHAT ARE THOSE CRIES?

STOP IT!
YOU! YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE SNOOPING REPORTERS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I SUSPECTED YOU OF JUST THIS SORT OF THING! I'M GOING TO PRINT WHAT I'VE SEEN. . .!

OUT OF MY WAY!

YOU'LL NEVER PRINT THAT STORY! —I'LL KILL YOU FIRST!
YOU'RE INSANE! OPEN THE DOOR!
157

THAT GIRL'S STORY WILL START AN INVEST IGATION AND RUIN EVERYTHING!
158

LUCKILY, THERE'S ENOUGH CASH FOR A QUICK GET-AWAY! —THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!

BUT FIRST I'VE GOT TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT GIRL WILL NEVER TALK!

LAUGHING WITH MAD GLEE, THE CRAZED SUPER-INTENDENT SETS FIRE TO THE ORPHANAGE
HO! HO!--I'LL BURN IT DOWN TO THE GROUND! THEY'LL NEVER CATCH ME! I'LL SKIP THE COUNTRY!

CRAZED WITH FEAR, THE TERRIFIED OCCUPANTS OF THE BLAZING ORPHANAGE RUSH OUT INTO THE COLD NIGHT . . . .

WE CAN'T! — THE DOOR WON'T BUDGE! — I CAN — HARDLY BREATHE!
TH' PLACE IS ON FIRE! — WE GOTTA GET OUT!

NO ONE NOTICED ME! THE MOMENT I REACH THAT CAR I'LL BE ON MY WAY TO SOUTH AMERICA AND A LIFE OF LUXURY!

THE SUPERINTENDENT . . . RUSHING FROM THE BURNING ORPHANAGE! THE COWARD'S GONE INSANE!
159

DOWN TO THE GROUND CRASHES THE MAN OF STEEL, AS THE SUPERINTENDENT MAKES HIS GET-AWAY. . .
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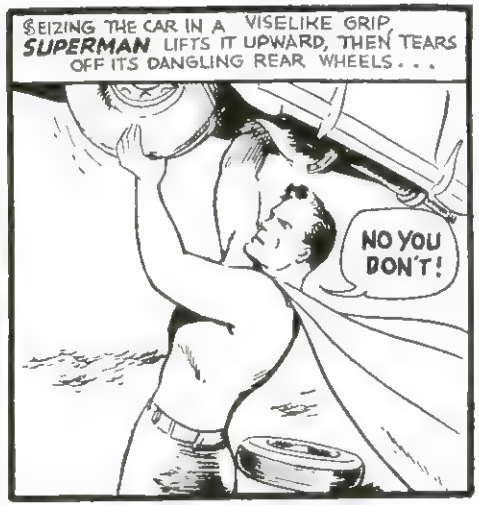

SEIZING THE CAR IN A VISELIKE GRIP, SUPERMAN LIFTS IT UPWARD, THEN TEARS OFF ITS DANGLING REAR WHELS. . .
NO YOU DON'T!

STICK AROUND!
WHAT IN--?

A LIGHT PRESSURE UPON THE REAR OF LYMAN'S NECK BY SUPERMAN AND THE SUPERINTENDENT PASSES OUT!
I'LL ATTEND TO YOU LATER! RIGHT NOW SOMEONE MAY NEED HELP IN THAT BURNING BUILDING!
160

SHE'S UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE SMOKE! HELP! HELP!

FRANKIE -- TRAPPED IN THE ATTIC!
161

GRAB HOLD. . WE'VE GOT TO JUMP BEFORE THE BUILDING COLLAPSES!
WAIT! THERE'S A GIRL IN THE ROOM!

DOWN FROM THE CRASHING BUILDING LEAPS SUPERMAN, LOIS AND FRANKIE SAFELY IN HIS ARMS. . .

W-WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID I GET HERE?
THAT GUY WE'VE READ SO MUCH ABOUT SUPERMAN...HE BROUGHT US DOWN SAFELY--THEN BEAT IT!

YOU SAY THAT SUPERMAN SAVED US FROM DEATH IN THE BURNING BUILDING!
YES! GOSH! IS HE STRONG! WOTTA MAN!
LOIS! — THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!

ARREST THAT MAN-- HE SET FIRE TO THE ORPHANAGE!
LET ME GO! . . . I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING!

The Daily Star
Wire Photo Service
Vol XXVI. No 87
GRAFT, CRUELTY REIG
IN STATE ORPHANAG
by CLARK KENT
SUPERINTENDENT
BOY HERO

CLARK VISITS THE REBUILT STATE ORPHANAGE
WELL, FRANKIE HOW DO YOU AND THE OTHER KIDS LIKE YOUR NEW SUPERINTENDENT?
HE'S SWELL! — AND SO ARE YOU, MR. KENT!

EPISODE EIGHT

ROYAL DEATHPLOT

I FEEL IN A CONCILIATORY MOOD, CLARK WOULD YOU CARE TO COME OVER FOR DINNER TONIGHT?
I'D BE DELIGHTED!
163

THAT EVENING..
MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME WHILE I PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO MY DINNER!
O.K. I'LL TURN ON THE RADIO

ALL READY! -- I'LL BE IN IN A MINUTE

WE INTERRUPT THE DANCE MUSIC TO ANNOUNCE A STARTLING NEWS BROADCAST!
WONDER WHAT'S UP?

FLASH! A DISTRESS SIGNAL HAS JUST BEEN BROADCAST FROM THE ROYAL YACHT, MILAN, ENROUTE TO AMERICA FROM RANGORIA WITH KING BORU AND HIS DAUGHTER PRINCESS TANIA ABOARD!

AN UNKNOWN SUB-MARINE IS TRAILING THE MILAN AND ITS TWO CONVOY SHIPS. IMPENDING VIOLENCE IS FEARED!
WHEW!

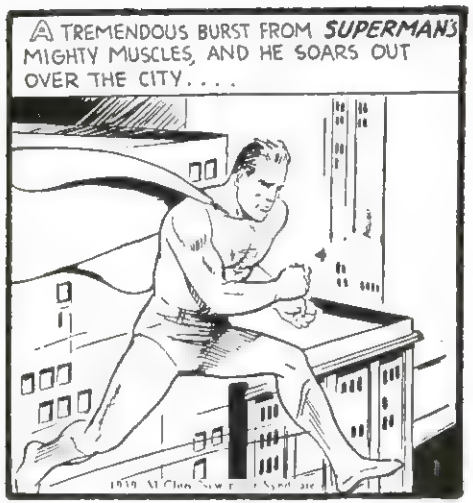
ONE LITHE STEP BRINGS THE DAILY STAR REPORTER TO LOIS' WINDOW SILL... NEXT INSTANT, HE STEPS OUT INTO EMPTY SPACE, AND VANISHES FROM VIEW...
164

WELL, HERE WE AR--- WHAT TH'-?
HE'S GONE!

NOW FOR THE ROOF!
165

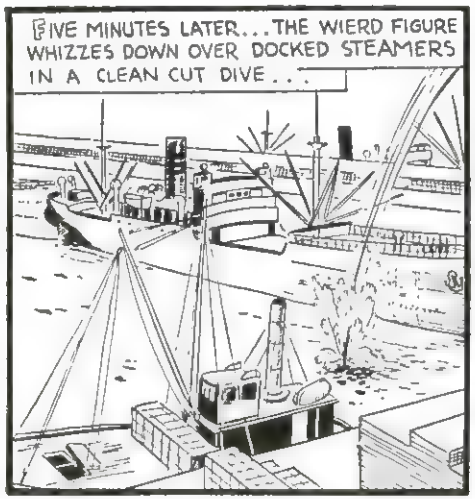
LOIS WILL BURN WHEN SHE FINDS I'M GONE, BUT THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS AT STAKE!

I'LL PICK THESE UP ON MY NEXT VISIT!


A TREMENDOUS BURST FROM SUPERMAN'S MIGHTY MUSCLES, AND HE SOARS OUT OVER THE CITY....

WHAM! - STEELY MUSCLES CUSHION THE SHOCK OF A HUNDRED FOOT DROP....
I'VE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF THE MILAN'S PROBABLE LOCATION AT THIS MOMENT!
166

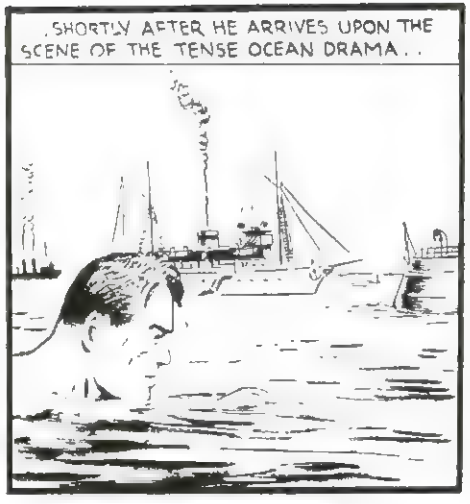
...THEN THE MAN OF TOMORROW RACES ALONG AT AN INCREDIBLE SPEED!
I HOPE I DON'T ARRIVE TOO LATE!


FIVE MINUTES LATER...THE WIERD FIGURE WHIZZES DOWN OVER DOCKED STEAMERS IN A CLEAN CUT DIVE...

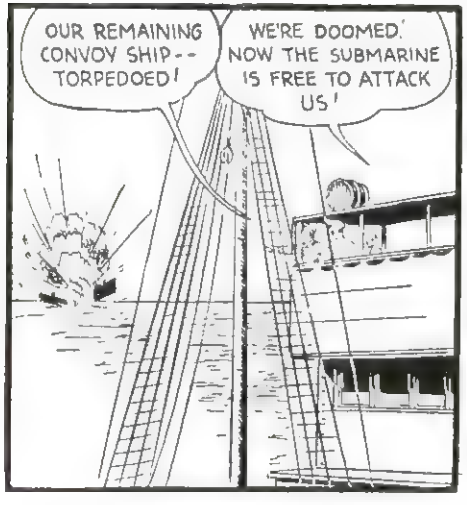
AT THIS RATE I SHOULD REACH THE MILAN IN A FEW MINUTES!

ABOARD THE MILAN..
WHY DON'T THE CONVOYS DO SOMETHING?
THEY'VE WARNED THE SUBMARINE THAT IF IT DOESN'T MOVE OFF, THEY'LL FIRE, YOUR MAJESTY
I'M SO EXCITED!

SUPERMAN SWIMS SO SWIFTLY THAT HE OVERTAKES AND PASSES SPEEDING LAUNCHES-
167

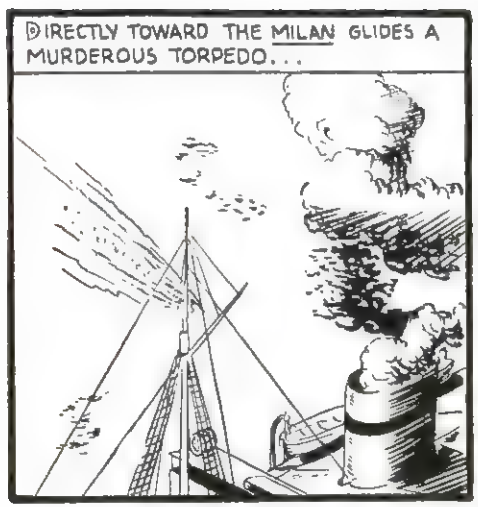

SHORTLY AFTER HE ARRIVES UPON THE SCENE OF THE TENSE OCEAN DRAMA..

JUST IN TIME TO WITNESS THE TORPEDOING OF A CONVOY SHIP!


OUR REMAINING CONVOY SHIP-- TORPEDOED!
WE'RE DOOMED! NOW THE SUBMARINE IS FREE TO ATTACK US!

WITHIN THE UNKNOWN SUB....
FIRE!
168

BEFORE SUPERMAN'S SHOCKED GAZE, A TORPEDO SPEEDS TOWARD THE MILAN, ON ITS GRIM ERRAND OF DEATH!


DIRECTLY TOWARD THE MILAN GLIDES A MURDEROUS TORPEDO...

SWIMMING AT TERRIFIC SPEED, SUPERMAN BRIDGES THE SPACE BETWEEN IT AND HIMSELF...

...A SHARP THRUST OF HIS ARM SENDS IT WHIRLING...
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...AND THE TORPEDO NARROWLY MISSES ITS TARGET!
169

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! A FEW INCHES OVER AND...!

BUT THE DANGER IS NOT OVER! ANOTHER TORPEDO IS LAUNCHED TOWARD THE MILAN...
HERE I GO AGAIN!

MAN AND TORPEDO MEET . . . .
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170

AMIDST A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION!

ABOARD THE MILAN . . .
LOOK! THERE'S NO LONGER ANY SIGN OF HIM!
IT WAS INCREDIBLE! A MAN..RACING A TORPEDO.. HEADING IT OFF!
INCREDIBLE? - - - IT WAS MAGNIFICENT!
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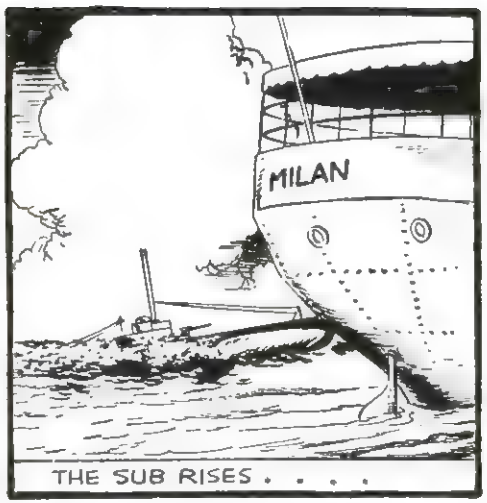
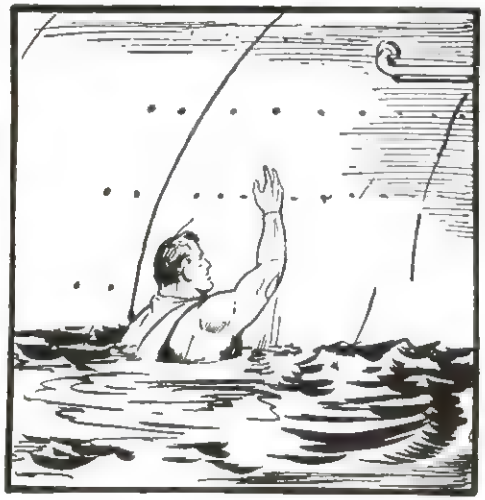
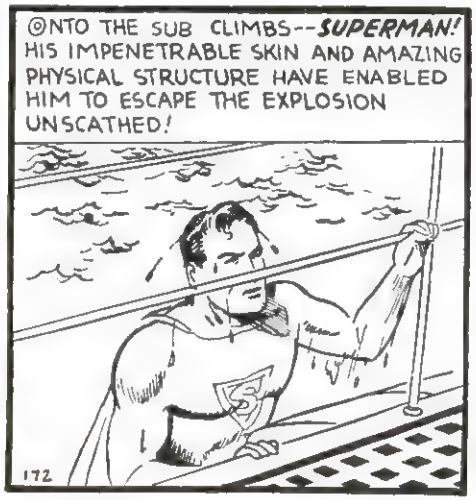

MILAN
THE SUB RISES . . . .

DESTROY THAT VESSEL! SHOW IT NO MERCY!
. . AND OPENS FIRE!

WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE! THEY'LL SINK US!
NOTHING CAN SAVE US, NOW--EXCEPT A MIRACLE!

AS THE SUBMARINE CONTINUES TO FIRE STEADILY AT THE STRICKEN ROYAL YACHT, THE DESTRUCTION OF THE MILAN APPEARS CERTAIN . . .




ONTO THE SUB CLIMBS--SUPERMAN! HIS IMPENETRABLE SKIN AND AMAZING PHYSICAL STRUCTURE HAVE ENABLED HIM TO ESCAPE THE EXPLOSION UNSCATHED!
172

CONTINUE FIRING!
YOU WON'T.. IF YOU VALUE YOUR HIDES!
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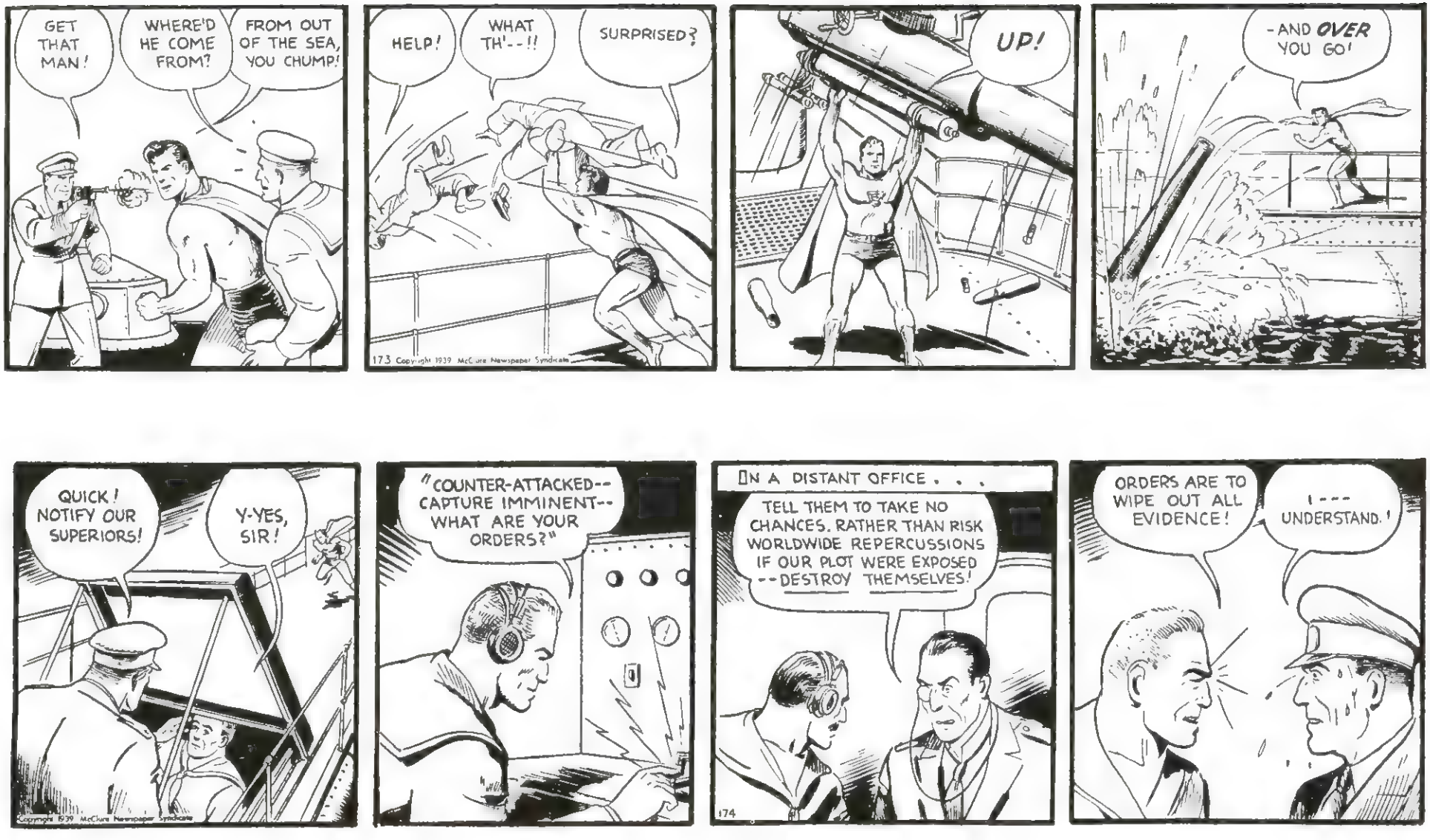
GET THAT MAN!
WHERE'D HE COME FROM?
FROM OUT OF THE SEA, YOU CHUMP!
HELP!
WHAT TH'--!!
SURPRISED?
173 Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
UP!
-AND OVER YOU GO!
QUICK! NOTIFY OUR SUPERIORS!
Y-YES, SIR!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
"COUNTER-ATTACKED-- CAPTURE IMMINENT-- WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?"
IN A DISTANT OFFICE . . .
TELL THEM TO TAKE NO CHANCES. RATHER THAN RISK WORLDWIDE REPERCUSSIONS IF OUR PLOT WERE EXPOSED --DESTROY THEMSELVES!
174
ORDERS ARE TO WIPE OUT ALL EVIDENCE!
I--- UNDERSTAND.!

AND NOW...THERE ARE SOME MATTERS I'D LIKE TO SETTLE WITH YOU!
KEEP BACK!

I WARN YOU -- STAY BACK, OR YOU'LL REGRET IT!
SORRY...BUT YOU FAIL TO TERRIFY ME!

WHY DID YOU ATTACK THE MILAN?
YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO KNOW!

BACK KICKS THE COMMANDER'S FOOT... WHAT IS HIS DESPERATE PLAN?
175

NO STALLING NOW! TELL ME WHO PROVOKED THIS ATTACK ON THE MILAN.... AND WHY?
YOU'LL NEVER KNOW...BECAUSE THE SECRET WILL DIE WITH US RIGHT HERE AND NOW!

DESPERATELY, THE COMMANDER'S FOOT JABS AT A BUTTON ON THE SUB'S DECK.
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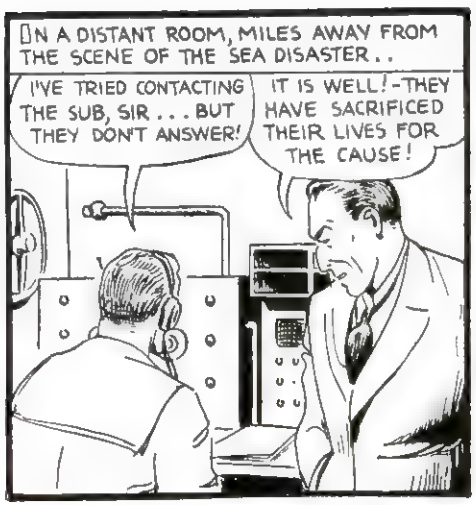
176


IN A DISTANT ROOM, MILES AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THE SEA DISASTER..
I'VE TRIED CONTACTING THE SUB, SIR... BUT THEY DON'T ANSWER!
IT IS WELL!-THEY HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR THE CAUSE!

LOOK! THE SUB IS BLOWING UP!
THANK GOD!
BUT THAT BRAVE MAN WHO AIDED US--- THEN HE'S DESTROYED, TOO!

CAUGHT BY THE EXPLOSION'S MIGHTY GRIP, SUPERMAN IS FLUNG, TWISTING AND TURNING INTO THE OCEAN'S DEPTHS...
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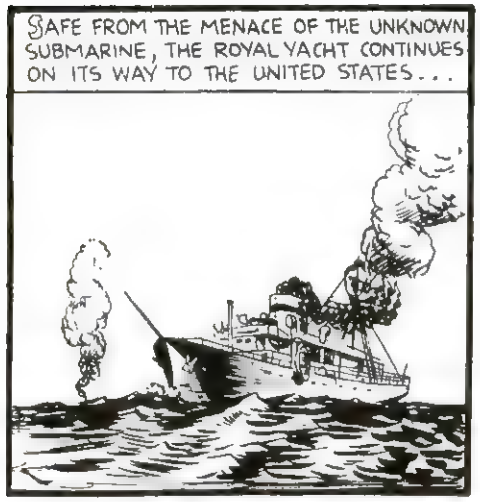
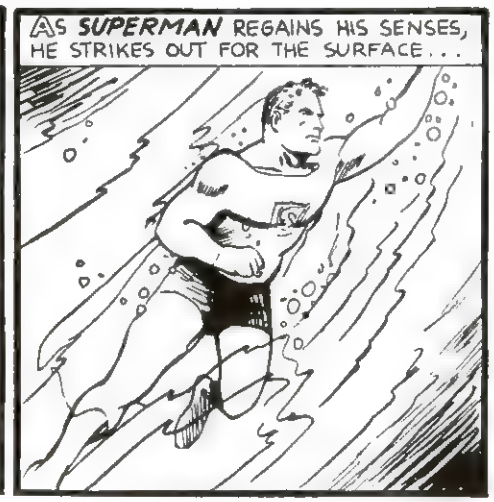
177

...STUNNED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS, HE DRIFTS SENSELESSLY AT THE MERCY OF AN UNDERWATER CURRENT!


SAFE FROM THE MENACE OF THE UNKNOWN SUBMARINE, THE ROYAL YACHT CONTINUES ON ITS WAY TO THE UNITED STATES...

BUT WHAT PUZZLES ME IS THAT EXHIBITION OF INCREDIBLE STRENGTH. I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HOW I'D LIKE TO MEET THAT MAN!
178


AS SUPERMAN REGAINS HIS SENSES, HE STRIKES OUT FOR THE SURFACE...

THERE GOES THE MILAN... WELL, HERE I GO!
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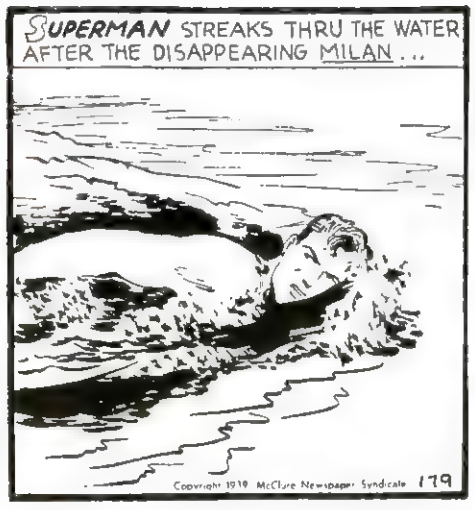
SUPERMAN STREAKS THRU THE WATER AFTER THE DISAPPEARING MILAN ...
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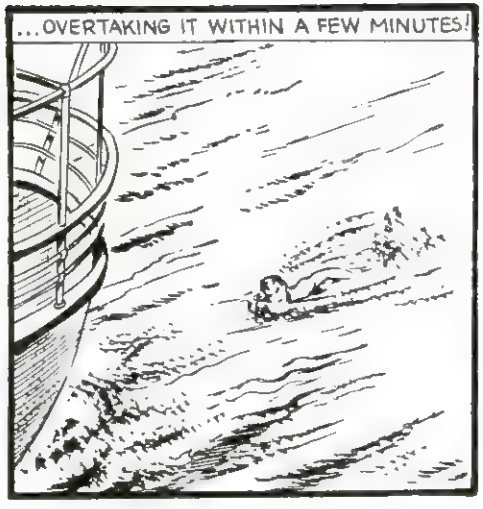
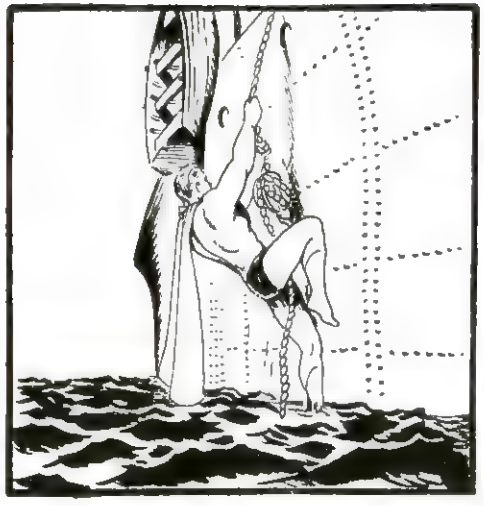

...OVERTAKING IT WITHIN A FEW MINUTES!



A MYSTERIOUS CLOAKED FIGURE CLIMBS ONTO THE DECK OF THE MILAN IN THE STILL OF THE NIGHT!
GOSH! — THAT EXPLOSION NEARLY FINISHED ME!

NOW IF I CAN ONLY REMAIN UNSEEN ...OOPS, HERE COMES SOMEONE

I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS DAY!
OF ALL THE HARROWING EXPERIENCES.

WITHIN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN ...
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHY WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ATTACKED?
I HAVE SOME PRETTY DEFINITE IDEAS, YOUR HIGHNESS!
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... AND OUTSIDE--!
JUST IN TIME TO GET AN EARFUL!

TELL ME, YOUR HIGHNESS... WHAT'S THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES?
I HOPE TO ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE U.S AND RANGORIA

EXACTLY. NOW WOULDN'T IT FIT IN WITH THE PLANS OF YOUR POLITICAL ENEMIES IF YOU AND YOUR DAUGHTER WERE SLAIN IN AMERICA?
THAT'S IT! THEY HOPE TO CAUSE A SERIOUS RUPTURE BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS —AND SEIZE THE THRONE!

THOUGH ENGROSSED IN HIS EAVESDROPPING, SUPERMAN'S SUPER-HEARING WARNS HIM THAT SOMEONE IS STEALING UP FROM BEHIND..
NOT SO FAST!

A GIRL --AND A BEAUTIFUL ONE, AT THAT!
181

SORRY... I DIDN'T MEAN TO MANHANDLE YOU!
YOU... YOU...!

TAKE THAT, CUR!
182

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU HAVE DONE? YOU HAVE LAID HANDS ON PRINCESS TANIA!
I SUPPOSE THAT BEING A PRINCESS GIVES YOU THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING ILL-TEMPERED!

WAIT! I RECOGNIZE YOU NOW! YOU ARE THE BRAVE, INCREDIBLY STRONG MAN WHO SAVED US FROM THAT SUBMARINE!
SUPERMAN, PRINCESS-- AT YOUR SERVICE!

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF RANGORIA IS DEEPLY INDEBTED TO YOU!
I STRIVE TO CORRECT INJUSTICE WHEREVER I FIND IT!

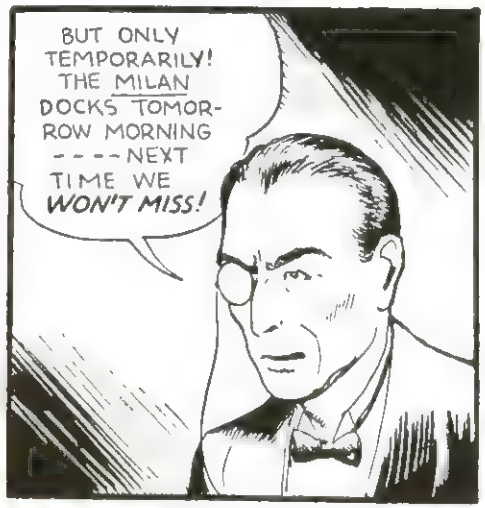
FORGIVE MY HASTY TEMPER! BELIEVE ME-- I'M SORRY!
YOU'RE FORGIVEN. THAT MAKES US FRIENDS, DOESN'T IT? --WELL, SEE YOU AGAIN--MAYBE!

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF FINDING SO MASTERFUL A GALLANT! WE'LL MEET AGAIN...BUT NEXT TIME HE WON'T GET AWAY SO EASILY!
183

LATER-- SUPERMAN DROPS UPON THE LEDGE OF CLARK KENT'S APARTMENT.
NOW TO PHONE IN MY STORY!
184

CLARK KENT SPEAKING! CONNECT ME WITH A RE-WRITE MAN!

IN A DISTANT ROOM, PLOTTERS FUME.
THE SUBMARINE WAS DESTROYED. AND THE KING AND PRINCESS LIVE!
WHAT NOW?
YES, WE'VE FAILED THIS TIME....


BUT ONLY TEMPORARILY! THE MILAN DOCKS TOMORROW MORNING ----NEXT TIME WE WON'T MISS!

NOW TO RETURN TO LOIS' APARTMENT! I'LL HAVE SOME JOB EXPLAINING MY ABSENCE!

AGAIN SUPERMAN DONS HIS GUISE OF CLARK KENT, ACE DAILY STAR REPORTER

YOU--!
ER ---I GUESS IT IS!
185 Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

WHAT'S THE IDEA OF RUNNING OUT ON A DATE, AFTER BEGGING FOR ONE FOR MONTHS?
IT'S VERY SIMPLE TO EXPLAIN. YOU SEE...I...

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR EXPLANATIONS! GET OUT!
IF YOU'D ONLY LET ME EXPLAIN!

AFTER CLARK DEPARTS, LOIS TAKES A WALK TO COOL OFF...
OF ALL THE SHABBY TRICKS!
EXTRA! SPECIAL DAILY STAR EXTRA!!
186

I'LL TAKE ONE, PLEASE!
HM-M!--I WONDER WHAT THEY'VE BROUGHT OUT AN EXTRA ABOUT?
DAILY

WELL, I'LL---!
Daily Star
SUBMARINE ATTACKING ROYAL COUPLE DESTROYED AT SEA BY SUPERMAN!
by Clark Kent

BY CLARK! HOW COULD HE HAVE LEFT MY APARTMENT AND GATHERED THIS INFORMATION IN SUCH A SHORT TIME?
187

SO THE MILAN DOCKS TOMORROW MORNING AT 9:00 A.M., EH?--I'LL BE THERE!
BOARD BUS HERE
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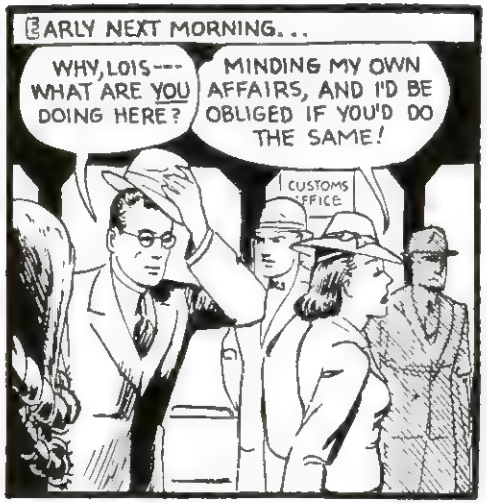
EARLY NEXT MORNING...
WHY, LOIS--- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
MINDING MY OWN AFFAIRS, AND I'D BE OBLIGED IF YOU'D DO THE SAME!
CUSTOMS OFFICE

MEANWHILE, IN A DISTANT OFFICE...
YOU WILL ALL DRAW SLIPS. TO THE FORTUNATE ONE WHO DRAWS THE MARKED SLIP WILL FALL THE ENVIABLE TASK OF ASSASSINATING THE KING AND PRINCESS!
188

I HAVE THE MARKED SLIP!
SPLENDID! GO NOW TO WHERE THE MILAN DOCKS AND DO YOUR TASK WELL!

THE MILAN SWERVES IN TOWARD THE DOCK...
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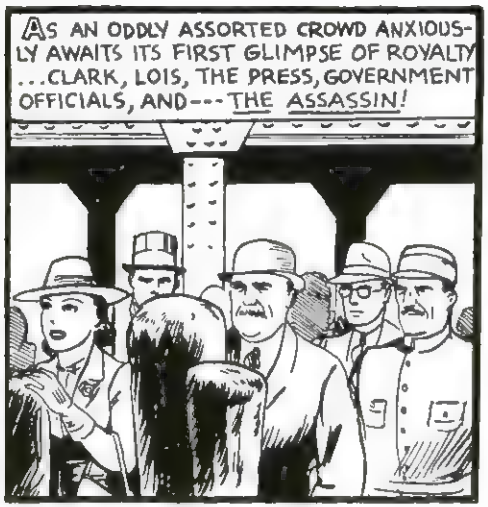
AS AN ODDLY ASSORTED CROWD ANXIOUSLY AWAITS ITS FIRST GLIMPSE OF ROYALTY ...CLARK, LOIS, THE PRESS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND---THE ASSASSIN!

WHY THE HEAVY GUARD, FATHER?
JUST A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE!
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AT THAT MOMENT...KENT'S TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS TO HIM...
GOOD GRIEF!

...THE ASSASSIN...SLIPPING A DEADLY BOMB FROM UNDER HIS JACKET!
DEATH TO THE ROYAL HOUSE OF RANGORIA!
189

WHAT'LL I DO? HE'S TOO FAR FROM ME TO STOP HIM NATURALLY, AND IF I USE SUPER-STRENGTH, I WILL REVEAL MY IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN!

GIVE ME THAT!
HEY! WHAT ARE--?

CLARK HURLS THE CAMERA THRU THE AIR WITH GREAT FORCE!

STRAIGHT AND TRUE IT FLIES, STRIKING THE ASSASSIN DIRECTLY UPON HIS WRIST...!
OW-WW!
190

...DOWN FROM THE PIER DROPS THE BOMB, TO BE SWALLOWED BY THE OCEAN AND RENDERED HARMLESS!
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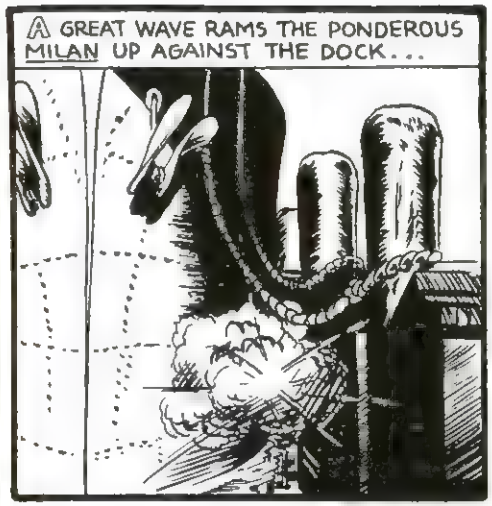
GET HIM!
HE TRIED TO ASSASSINATE THE KING AND PRINCESS!
THE DIRTY KILLER!
NO --- DON'T..!

YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!


A GREAT WAVE RAMS THE PONDEROUS MILAN UP AGAINST THE DOCK...

--A SOUL-SHIVERING SHRIEK, THEN... SILENCE...
HE--HE WAS CRUSHED TO DEATH!
BUT HE DESERVED IT!
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191

NICE GOIN', FELLA!
HE'S A HERO!
HEY! LET ME OUT!
LET ME SEE HIM!

CLARK --- A HERO! I -- DON'T -- GET -- IT
192

AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY, CLARK SLIPS AWAY...
WHEW! IF THAT'S HERO WORSHIP... I WANT NONE OF IT!
PIER-NO

HELLO, DAILY STAR? CONNECT ME WITH A REWRITE-MAN! HERE'S A STORY THAT'LL MAKE ANOTHER EXTRA!

NEXT MORNING... AS CLARK ENTERS THE DAILY STAR OFFICE...
HAIL TO THE HERO!
IS IT TRUE, CLARK-- THAT YOU SAVED THE KING AND QUEEN FROM ASSASSINATION?
WHOA!-- YOU TAKE MY BREATH AWAY!

HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
IT WAS REALLY AN ACCIDENT. YOU SEE...
SAY, CLARK! THERE'S A GUY WAITING TO SEE YOU--- MUST BE A BIG SHOT... HE'S LOADED DOWN WITH MEDALS!

KING BORU AND PRINCESS TANIA GRACIOUSLY EXTEND TO YOU AN INVITATION TO VISIT THEM AND RECEIVE THEIR ROYAL THANKS!
I'LL BE DELIGHTED TO ACCEPT!

WHATAMAN! HOBNOBBING WITH ROYALTY, AND EVERYTHING!
IT'S JUST IN THE BREAKS ...MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO ANY OF YOU!
--CLARK KENT--- THE CENTER OF ATTENTION... ACQUAINTED WITH ROYALTY!

AN INVITATION FROM THE KING AND PRINCESS OF RANGORIA! NOT BAD!

NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO ENTER
BUT--!

BUT I WAS INVITED TO COME. MY NAME IS CLARK K--
CLARK KENT!-- A THOUSAND PARDON'S!-- ENTER!
194

M-MM! SOME SHACK!

THIS PLACE CERTAINLY IS WELL-GUARDED!

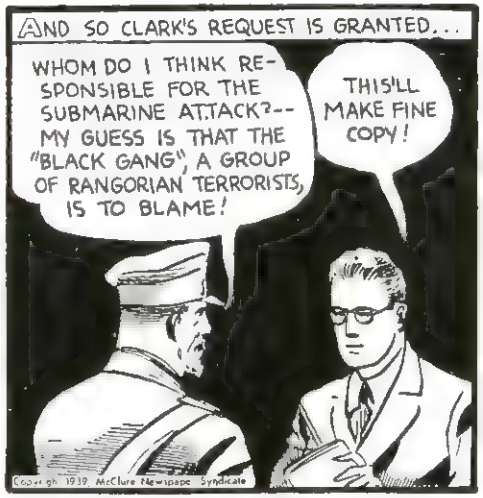
IF YOU'LL BE SEATED, YOUR HOSTS WILL SOON JOIN YOU!
195

I WISH THEY'D HURRY. I FEEL LOST IN THE VASTNESS OF THIS ROOM!

KING BORU AND PRINCESS TANIA OF RANGORIA!

SO YOU'RE THE YOUNG MAN TO WHOM WE OWE OUR LIVES!
YOU HAVE OUR ROYAL GRATITUDE!
THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS!
196

YOU SHALL BE REWARDED FOR YOUR BRAVERY!
NAME ANYTHING!
AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU WILL BE REWARD ENOUGH! YOU SEE, I'M A REPORTER!


AND SO CLARK'S REQUEST IS GRANTED...
WHOM DO I THINK RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUBMARINE ATTACK?-- MY GUESS IS THAT THE "BLACK GANG", A GROUP OF RANGORIAN TERRORISTS, IS TO BLAME!
THIS'LL MAKE FINE COPY!

AND NOW THAT THE INTERVIEW IS FINISHED... MAY I HAVE A FEW WORDS WITH YOU?
CERTAINLY. ("-HM-MM! WHAT NOW?-")

WHAT I'M GOING TO ASK YOU IS STRICTLY OFF THE RECORD!
YOU MAY RELY ON MY DISCRETION!
197

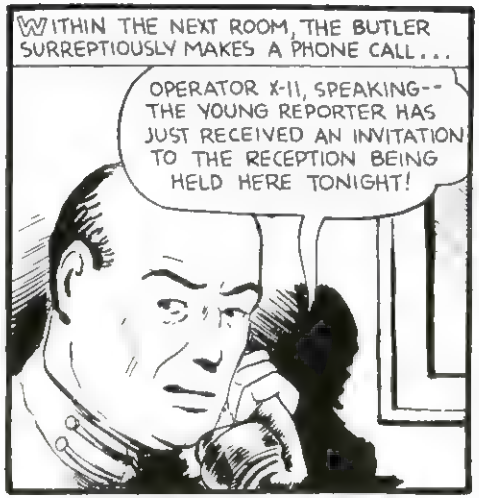
WHO IS THIS SUPERMAN, WHO RESCUED US FROM THE SUBMARINE'S ATTACK?
SUPERMAN!--ER- HE'S A MAN POSSESSING SUPER-STRENGTH WHO BATTLES INJUSTICE AND ASSISTS THE OPPRESSED VERY LITTLE IS KNOWN OF HIM

WHY DO YOU ASK?
BECAUSE I HAVE A TREMENDOUS INTEREST IN HIM!
197

IN FACT, I THINK I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HIM!
("--WHAT A SPOT TO BE IN! IF SHE SUSPECTED MY TRUE IDENTITY..!")

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, I WANT TO MEET SUPERMAN AGAIN. YOU'LL HELP ME FIND HIM, WON'T YOU?
I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN

BE SURE TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION BEING HELD HERE TONIGHT.--I'LL EXPECT YOU.
RECEPTION? --F? I'LL BE THERE!


WITHIN THE NEXT ROOM, THE BUTLER SURREPTIOUSLY MAKES A PHONE CALL...
OPERATOR X-11, SPEAKING-- THE YOUNG REPORTER HAS JUST RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO THE RECEPTION BEING HELD HERE TONIGHT!

CLARK'S SUPER-HEARING ENABLES HIM TO HEAR THE CLICKING OF THE TELEPHONE'S DIAL-MECHANISM...
3--8--3425!
198

UPON LEAVING THE KING'S RESIDENCE, CLARK CALLS THE CHIEF OPERATOR...
KENT OF THE DAILY STAR SPEAKING! WILL YOU PLEASE GIVE ME THE NAME AND ADDRESS LISTED FOR 3-8-3425?
DR. LARRON--381 PARMALEE... THANK YOU, OPERATOR!
A BUTLER PHONES. A DOCTOR...INFORMS HIM OF MY VISIT--- BUT WHY?
I'LL DROP IN ON THIS DR. LARRON, AND LEARN THE ANSWER!
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199
DR. LARRON, M.D. ---THIS HUNCH MAY BE SILLY, BUT THERE'S NO HARM IN LOOKING INTO IT!
DR. LARR
M.D.
WHAT IS IT?
I'VE A SEVERE PAIN IN MY SIDE...I THOUGHT I'D BETTER GET A THOROUGH PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.
FIND ANYTHING, DOC? ("--I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT SOMETHING'S AMISS HERE!--")
HM-MM!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
CLARK'S KEEN HEARING DETECTS MUFFLED BREATHING IN A NEARBY ROOM...
("--THERE ARE SEVERAL MEN IN HIDING HERE! BUT WHO...AND WHY...?")
200

WELL DOC! WHAT'S THE VERDICT?
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOU. YOU'RE IN PERFECT PHYSICAL CONDITION.

IN THAT CASE I'LL PAY THE FEE, BE GLAD YOU FOUND NOTHING WRONG WITH ME, AND LEAVE.
OH, NO YOU WON'T! STAND WHERE YOU ARE!
201

YOU MAY ENTER NOW!
DON'T MOVE!
WHAT IN--?

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
DON'T ACT SO SURPRISED! WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WE THINK WE KNOW WHY YOU'VE COME!
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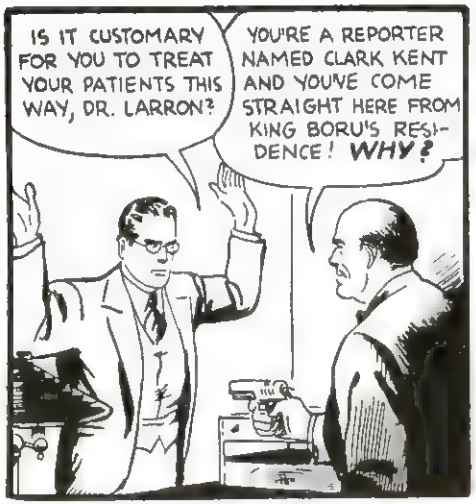
IS IT CUSTOMARY FOR YOU TO TREAT YOUR PATIENTS THIS WAY, DR. LARRON?
YOU'RE A REPORTER NAMED CLARK KENT AND YOU'VE COME STRAIGHT HERE FROM KING BORU'S RESI-DENCE! WHY?

AS CLARK, SILENT, SMILES...
I ADVISE YOU TO TALK!
YOU'D BETTER DO AS HE SAYS, IF YOU WANT TO REMAIN HEALTHY!

DON'T GRIN AT ME LIKE AN APE! START TALKING!
202
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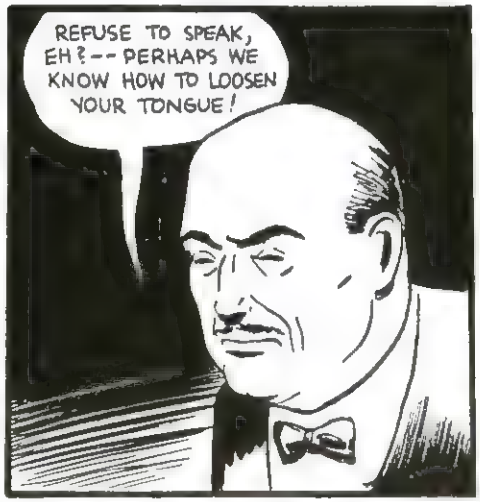
REFUSE TO SPEAK, EH?-- PERHAPS WE KNOW HOW TO LOOSEN YOUR TONGUE!

WHEN CLARK REFUSES TO OFFER INFORMATION, DR LARRON PRODUCES A VISE...
YOU'LL BE TALKING SOON...BEGGING FOR MERCY!

THE PLOTTERS FORCE CLARK'S HAND WITHIN THE DEVICE...
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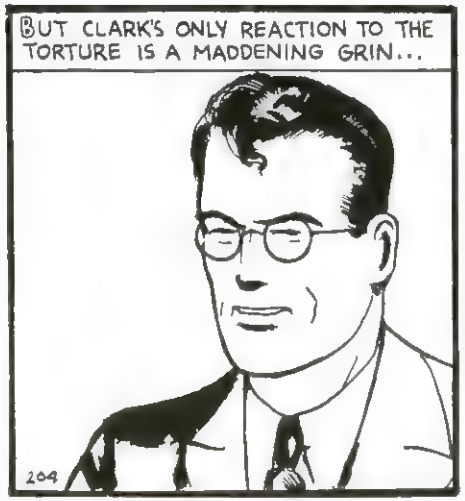
YOUR LAST CHANCE! WILL YOU SPEAK, OR MUST WE BEGIN THIS UNPLEASANT DEMONSTRATION?
HE STILL REFUSES TO TALK!
203

YOU MAY BEGIN!

LEERING, ONE OF DR. LARRON'S HENCHMEN TIGHTENS THE VISE...
TALK...OR HAVE THE BONES OF YOUR HAND SLOWLY CRUSHED!


BUT CLARK'S ONLY REACTION TO THE TORTURE IS A MADDENING GRIN...
204

(PUFF!) I'M GIVING IT ALL I'VE GOT BUT (PUFF!) IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER HIM!
WHEW! HE CERTAINLY CAN TAKE IT!
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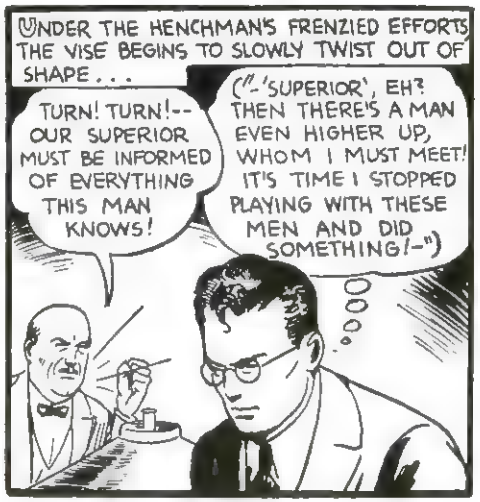
UNDER THE HENCHMAN'S FRENZIED EFFORTS THE VISE BEGINS TO SLOWLY TWIST OUT OF SHAPE...
TURN! TURN!-- OUR SUPERIOR MUST BE INFORMED OF EVERYTHING THIS MAN KNOWS!
("-'SUPERIOR', EH? THEN THERE'S A MAN EVEN HIGHER UP, WHOM I MUST MEET! IT'S TIME I STOPPED PLAYING WITH THESE MEN AND DID SOMETHING!-")

THE VISE INTENDED TO CRUSH CLARK'S HAND SLOWLY BECOMES TWISTED...
("- I'VE GOT TO PLAY ALONG WITH THEM... PRETEND THIS HURTS, SO THAT I CAN LEARN THE IDENTITY OF THEIR LEADER!-")
205

I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER! THE PAIN...! STOP! STOP!
I KNEW HE WOULD CRACK!

LISTEN TO ME! WE'LL PAY YOU MONEY--ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS--IF YOU WORK FOR US, DO AS WE SAY!
LET-- ME-- GO!
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I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY!
THAT'S BETTER! --FREE HIM!

I OVERHEARD THE KING'S BUTLER TELEPHONE YOU AND CAME HERE ON THE TRACK OF A NEWS STORY.
I HOPE YOU ARE TELLING THE TRUTH. --BUT ANYHOW, WE CAN MAKE IMPORTANT USE OF YOU.
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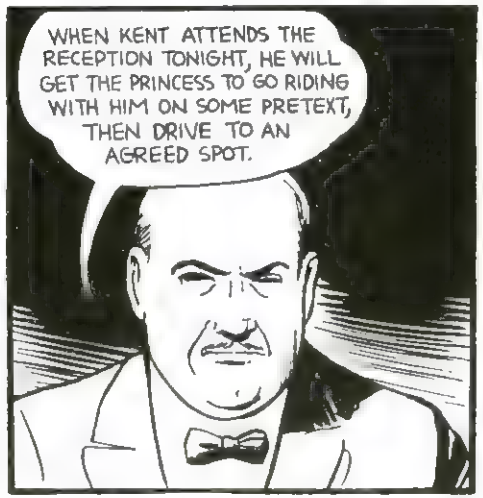
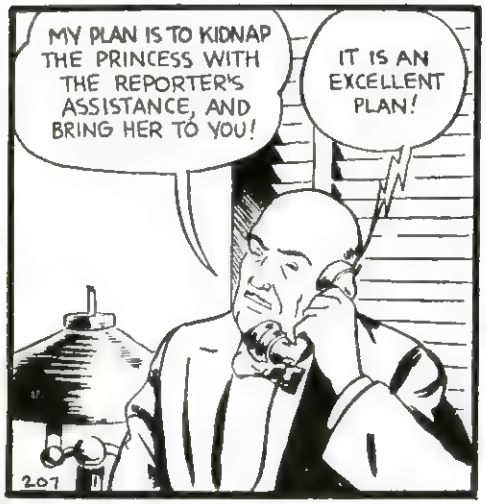
THE DOCTOR STRIDES ABOUT, LOST IN THOUGHT, THEN-- SUDDENLY....
I'VE GOT IT--A PLAN THAT I'M SURE OUR LEADER WILL APPROVE!
WHAT IS IT?
206


WHEN KENT ATTENDS THE RECEPTION TONIGHT, HE WILL GET THE PRINCESS TO GO RIDING WITH HIM ON SOME PRETEXT, THEN DRIVE TO AN AGREED SPOT.

THERE WE WILL KIDNAP HER. WITH PRINCESS TANIA IN OUR HANDS, HER FATHER, THE KING, WILL BE FORCED TO GIVE US THE CONCESSIONS WE DESIRE!
SPLENDID! A BRILLIANT PLAN!
NOT BAD AT THAT... ESPECIALLY FOR ME, WHEN I GET THAT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS!

IT'S AGREED THAT I LEAD THE PRINCESS TO A SPOT WHERE YOU WILL SEIZE HER BUT WHAT HAPPENS THEN?
WE WILL TAKE HER TO OUR LEADER WHO WILL THEN DEMAND OF THE KING THE CONCESSIONS WE DESIRE.

AFTER CLARK DEPARTS...
QUIET! I'M CONTACTING THE LEADER!


MY PLAN IS TO KIDNAP THE PRINCESS WITH THE REPORTER'S ASSISTANCE, AND BRING HER TO YOU!
IT IS AN EXCELLENT PLAN!
207

HOWEVER, INSTEAD OF BRINGING PRINCESS TANIA TO ME, KILL HER!
WE WILL DO AS YOU DIRECT!
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THAT EVENING---
THE BELL!- I WONDER WHO THAT IS?

LOIS!
YES...IT'S ME, ALL RIGHT!
208

BUT--BUT WHY THE UNEXPECTED VISIT?
YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET, CLARK, BUT I'M GOING TO THAT ROYAL RECEPTION WITH YOU!

THIS IS A PLEASURE I DIDN'T COUNT ON!
WELL, DON'T LET IT GIVE YOU ANY WRONG IDEAS. THE EDITOR ASSIGNED ME TO TAG ALONG WITH YOU. I ASSURE YOU, THIS IS PURELY A BUSINESS MATTER!

ARRIVING AT THE RECEPTION...
NOT A BAD PLACE, IS IT?
I STILL PREFER MY SMALL APARTMENT.
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AS THEY ENTER THE BALLROOM, CLARK IS OVERWHELMED BY THE ACCLAMATION OF THE GUESTS....
SO YOU'RE THE HEROIC MAN WE'VE BEEN HEARING SO MUCH ABOUT!
GLAD TO MEET YOU SIR,-- GLAD!
YOU'VE DONE RANGORIA A SERVICE IT WILL NEVER FORGET!

THIS IS MY DANCE! REMEMBER? YOU PROMISED!
YOUR ATTENTION IS FLATTERING, PRINCESS!

WELL, DON'T BE TOO FLATTERED! I'M DANCING WITH YOU ONLY BECAUSE I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUPERMAN!
ASK AWAY! ("-I'M AFRAID THIS IS GOING TO BE EMBARRASSING!-")
209

TELL ME, IS THERE ANY WAY ONE CAN CONTACT THIS--ER-- SUPERMAN?
IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT INDEED. BUT POSSIBLE, PERHAPS...

HE MAKES ME FURIOUS! NOT THAT I'M JEALOUS, BUT HE COULD SHOW ME A LITTLE MORE ATTENTION.
210

WHEN THE DANCE ENDS...
SINCE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE, DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOU MIGHT DANCE WITH ME ONCE, FOR APPEARANCE'S SAKE?
GLADLY!--LET'S MAKE IT THE NEXT DANCE!

BUT I PROMISED LOIS I'D..
FORGET IT! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
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ACCEDING TO THE PRINCESS'S REQUEST, CLARK TAKES HER FOR A SPIN THROUGH THE NIGHT...
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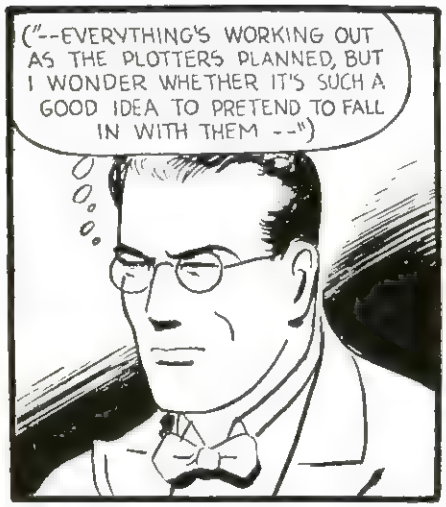
("--EVERYTHING'S WORKING OUT AS THE PLOTTERS PLANNED, BUT I WONDER WHETHER IT'S SUCH A GOOD IDEA TO PRETEND TO FALL IN WITH THEM --")

MIND IF WE PARK HERE?
NOT AT ALL
211

YOU KNOW, DESPITE MY FEELINGS FOR SUPERMAN, THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT ATTRACTS ME, TOO.
ER--- REALLY?

THE PRINCESS PURSUES A DANGEROUS LINE OF QUESTIONING....
ODD --BUT WHEN THE SHADOWS FELL ACROSS YOUR FACE A MOMENT AGO, I WAS STARTLED BY YOUR RESEMBLANCE TO--SUPERMAN!
ME? --- RESEMBLE SUPERMAN?

BUT NOW THAT I LOOK CLOSER I CAN SEE THE FANCIED RESEMBLANCE WAS JUST A TRICK OF MY IMAGINATION!

("--HOW SILLY OF ME TO COMPARE THE TWO--SUPERMAN IS SO BOLD AND DARING ...WHILE THIS ANEMIC WRETCH IS AFRAID OF HIS OWN SHADOW!--")
("--WHEW! SHE HAD ME NERVOUS THERE, FOR A MOMENT!")
212

ONTO THIS SCENE GLIDES THE RANGORIAN PLOTTERS' SLEEK, DARK SEDAN..
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UP WITH YOUR HANDS AND GET OUT!
HUH?

YOU HEARD ME--OUT!
WHAT IN--?
213

THIS IS SO THAT YOU WON'T INTERFERE!
UH-HH-H!

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME! LET ME GO!
QUICK! INTO THE CAR WITH HER BEFORE HE REVIVES!

AS THE KIDNAPPERS' CAR SPEEDS OFF, CLARK DROPS HIS POSE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS, AND LEAPS ERECT...
SO FAR --OKAY!

QUICKLY HE STRIPS OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO SUPERMAN...
BUT I'D BETTER SEE TO IT THAT THE GIRL REMAINS UNHARMED!
214

PUT THAT GUN AWAY! I WON'T MAKE TROUBLE!
NATURALLY, YOU WON'T--BECAUSE I'M GOING TO PUT A BULLET IN YOUR BRAIN, RIGHT NOW!

HIGH OVERHEAD.-- SUPERMAN'S SUPER-HEARING AND X-RAY EYESIGHT APPRISE HIM OF THE SITUATION...
THAT ALTERS THINGS! NOW I'VE GOT TO ACT!

215

WHAT IN--?
WHERE'D HE COME FROM?
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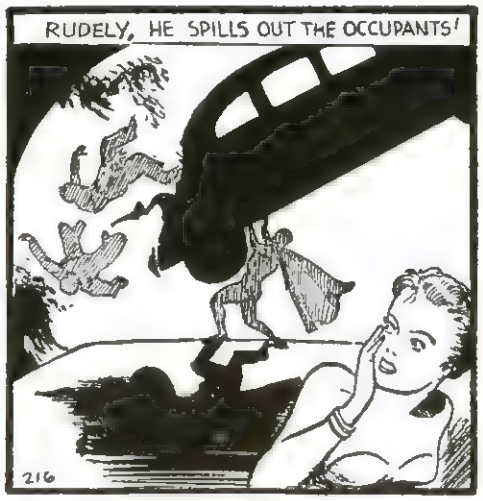
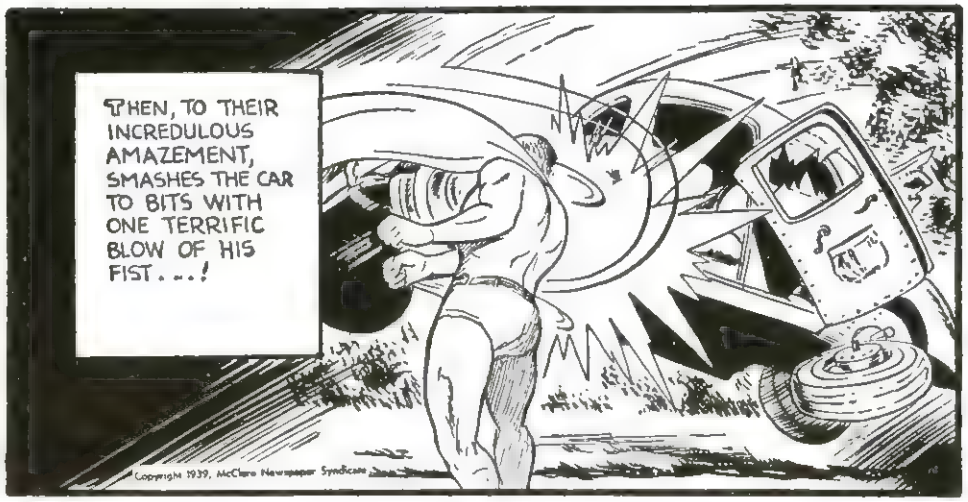
AS THE AUTO SWERVES TO AVOID SUPERMAN'S FIGURE, THE HENCHMAN'S AIM IS DEFLECTED....
WHAT--??

SWIFTER THAN LIGHTNING, SUPERMAN SEIZES AND TEARS OPEN THE REAR OF THE CAR!
STICK AROUND!

WITH A DEFT MOVEMENT HE REMOVES THE PRINCESS AS...


RUDELY, HE SPILLS OUT THE OCCUPANTS!
216


THEN, TO THEIR INCREDULOUS AMAZEMENT, SMASHES THE CAR TO BITS WITH ONE TERRIFIC BLOW OF HIS FIST...!
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RUN FOR IT!
HE--- HE'S AFTER US!

HOLD ON!
YEEEE-EE!

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE BOWLED, BUT-- HERE GOES!
217

AH-I HAVEN'T LOST MY FORM!

IF YOU MURDERING RATS WOULD LIKE A LITTLE MORE--!
NO! NO! ..WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!
LOOK! ANOTHER CAR!

FRIENDS! ---WE'RE SAVED!
FRIENDS, NOTHING! ---THOSE MACHINE-GUNS DON'T LOOK VERY AMICABLE!
218

THERE'S BEEN A SLIP UP! THE PRINCESS IS FREE!--SHOOT HER DOWN!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

AT THE SOUND OF MACHINE-GUN FIRE, SUPERMAN SCOOPS UP THE PRINCESS AND LEAPS FOR THE TREE OVERHEAD...
IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW I'VE LONGED TO HAVE YOU HOLD ME LIKE THIS--!
THIS IS NO TIME TO GET ROMANTIC!

SHOOT THEM DOWN!
NOW, STAY HERE --- DON'T MOVE UNLESS I TELL YOU!
219
WE'RE TRAPPED! THEY'LL KILL US BOTH!
IF YOU'LL JUST STICK TO THIS SPOT, YOU WON'T GET HURT!
COME DOWN, OR WE'LL BLAST YOU DOWN!
COMING!
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220
GET HIM! RUN HIM DOWN!
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LOOK OUT!

HEARING, THE PRINCESS'S WARNING SHOUT SUPERMAN WRENCHES A TREE UP BY ITS ROOTS . . .
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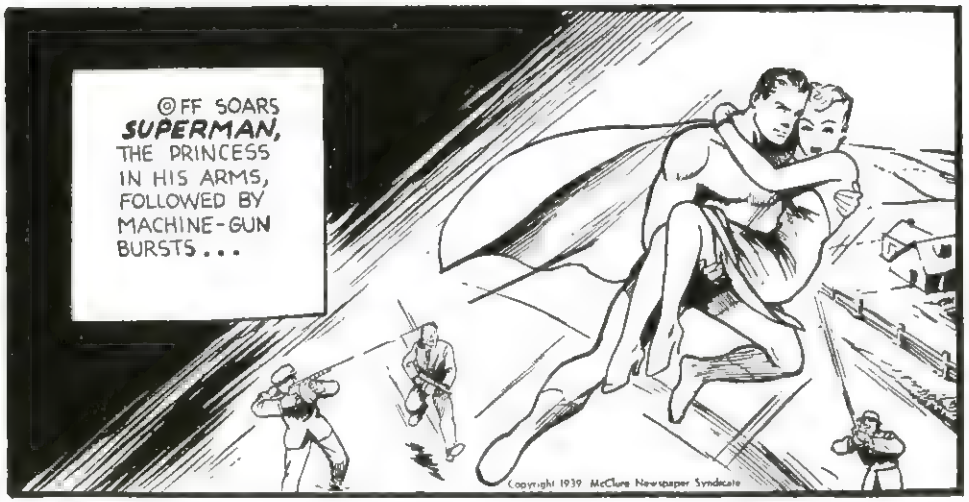
WHAM
221

HE RIPPED UP THE TREE--
--AND SMASHED IT INTO THE AUTO! HE'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF A THOUSAND MEN!

LET'S GET GOING!
222


OFF SOARS SUPERMAN, THE PRINCESS IN HIS ARMS, FOLLOWED BY MACHINE-GUN BURSTS . . .
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TWO FIGURES RACE THRU THE SKY AT BREAKNECK SPEED...PRINCESS TANIA OF RANGORIA AND---SUPERMAN...

TRY NOT TO BE FRIGHTENED!
FRIGHTENED?--I'M THRILLED!
223

YOU'RE SO STRONG AND I FEEL SO SAFE WITH YOU!
(—THERE SHE GOES AGAIN!—)

WHEN THEY REACH THE PRINCESS'S RESIDENCE...
DON'T LEAVE ME AGAIN. I'VE SOMETHING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU! WHEN I SIGNAL YOU FROM MY ROOM--COME!
I'LL AWAIT YOUR SIGNAL!

AT THE RECEPTION...
HAVE YOU SEEN THE PRINCESS?--I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHERE SHE IS
HERE COMES HER LADY-IN-WAITING, NOW.

THE PRINCESS IS VERY FATIGUED AND HAS RETIRED FOR THE EVENING.
POOR TANIA. SHE'S HAD A TRYING DAY.

224
CLARK AND THE PRINCESS HAVE BEEN GONE A MIGHTY LONG TIME. WHAT CAN THEY BE UP TO?

I WONDER WHAT THE PRINCESS WANTS TO TELL ME?

UPON REACHING HER ROOM, PRINCESS TANIA SWIFTLY CHANGES HER GARMENTS.
THIS NEGLIGEE SHOULD BE JUST THE THING!
IT'S CERTAINLY TAKING HER A LONG TIME TO REACH HER ROOM. I WONDER WHAT'S DELAYING HER?
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THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE DEVASTATING SCENT OF MIDNIGHT MADNESS TO REDUCE A MALE TO A QUIVERING SLAVE!
THE SIGNAL!
225
A LITHE SPRING BRINGS THE MAN OF STEEL TO THE PRINCESS'S BALCONY...
226
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
NO SIGN OF HER!
I'M SORRY IF I KEPT YOU WAITING!
WHAT DID YOU WISH TO SEE ME ABOUT?
CAN'T YOU GUESS?

I'VE NO TIME FOR RIDDLES. WHAT IS IT YOU WISH TO TELL ME?

ARE YOU SO BLIND THAT YOU CAN'T SEE I'M MAD ABOUT YOU?

YOU HAD ME COME UP HERE TO TELL ME THAT?
YES--IT HAS BEEN YOUR GOOD FORTUNE TO ATTAIN THE LOVE OF A PRINCESS!

I'M VERY FLATTERED BY YOUR ATTENTION--BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'VE MISPLACED YOUR AFFECTION.
WHAT...?
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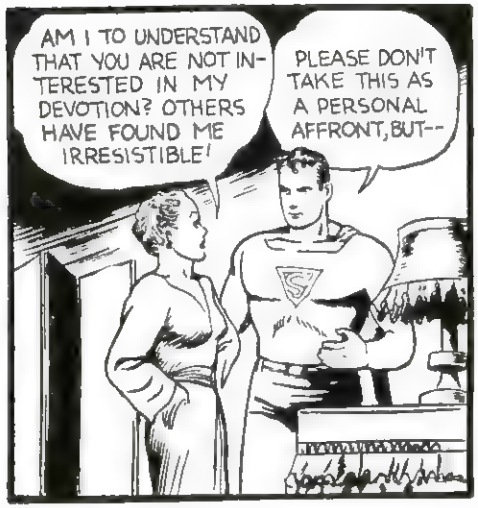
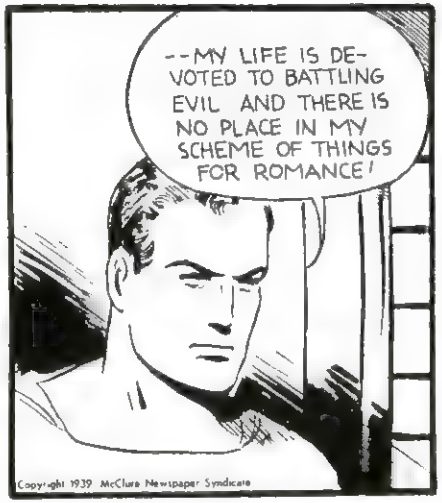
227


AM I TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN MY DEVOTION? OTHERS HAVE FOUND ME IRRESISTIBLE!
PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS AS A PERSONAL AFFRONT, BUT--


--MY LIFE IS DEVOTED TO BATTLING EVIL AND THERE IS NO PLACE IN MY SCHEME OF THINGS FOR ROMANCE!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

YOU HAVE THE AUDACITY TO SPURN ME!
TO PUT IT BRIEFLY: YES!
228

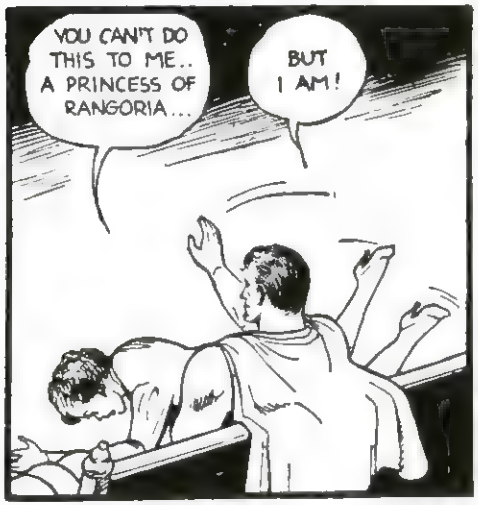
SNATCHING UP A DAGGER, TANIA STRIKES AT SUPERMAN....
YOU--YOU BEAST...!

ENRAGED AT SUPERMAN'S INDIFFERENCE, PRINCESS TANIA STABS HIM....
TAKE THAT, YOU BEAST!
CAREFUL, THERE!

YOU MIGHT HURT YOURSELF!
OF COURSE--YOU'RE NOT HURT! I'D FORGOTTEN SUPERMAN WAS INVULNERABLE...!

LET GO OF ME! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
229

GIVE YOU WHAT YOU DESERVE!


YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME.. A PRINCESS OF RANGORIA...
BUT I AM!

GET OUT!
GLADLY!

I'D RATHER TACKLE A DINOSAUR THAN A WOMAN, ANYTIME!
230

I SHOULD HATE HIM---BUT I DON'T. I LOVE HIM!

DOWN TO EARTH STREAKS A FANTASTICALLY COSTUMED FIGURE. . . .
IT'S TIME FOR CLARK KENT TO STEP BACK INTO THE PICTURE!
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231
CLARK RETURNS TO THE ROYAL RECEPTION.
WHAT A TIME I'LL HAVE EXPLAINING TO LOIS!
I'D LIKE A WORD WITH YOU MR. KENT!
--ER--I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
SO YOU'VE FINALLY RETURNED!
LOIS! --ER-- I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
PLEASE DANCE WITH ME SO THAT I CAN TELL YOU THE REASON FOR MY DISAPPEARANCE!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN DANCING WITH YOU -- PLEASE TAKE ME HOME!
232
AS THEY DRIVE HOMEWARD, A COLD, BRITTLE SILENCE ENVELOPS THE TWO. . . .
SLAM!
G-GOOD NIGHT!

NEXT MORNING...AS CLARK ENTERS THE DAILY STAR BUILDING...
PS-ST!
WHAT'S UP?
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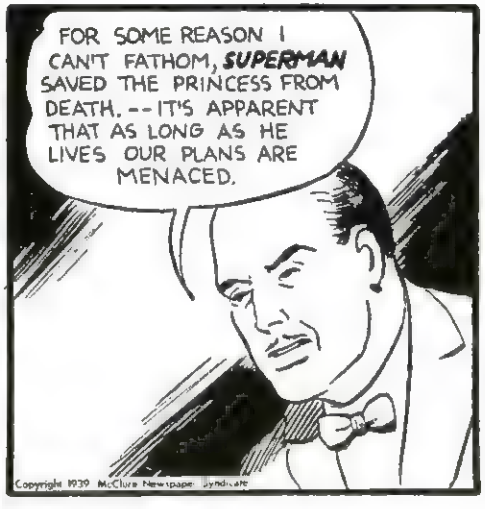
COME WITH ME! DR. LARRON WISHES TO SEE YOU AT ONCE!
LET'S GO!

LOIS, PASSING BY, OVERHEARS THEIR CONVERSATION...
WHAT WOULD THAT FOREIGN-LOOKING MAN WANT WITH CLARK?

REPORTORIAL AND FEMININE INSTINCTS PROMPT LOIS TO TRAIL THE ODD COUPLE..
IF THERE'S A STORY IN THE WIND, CLARK'S NOT GOING TO KEEP IT TO HIMSELF IF I CAN HELP IT!
TAX
233

WHEN CLARK AND HIS COMPANION REACH DR. LARRON'S OFFICE....
WHAT'S UP?
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME FOR A COUNCIL OF WAR!
LARRON M.D.
234


FOR SOME REASON I CAN'T FATHOM, SUPERMAN SAVED THE PRINCESS FROM DEATH.--IT'S APPARENT THAT AS LONG AS HE LIVES OUR PLANS ARE MENACED.
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OUR LEADER HAS PREPARED A TRAP FOR SUPERMAN AT THE KENYON WAREHOUSE. --IF WE COULD ONLY LURE HIM THERE...
PERHAPS I CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE.

TO THINK THAT CLARK WOULD BE A PARTY TO SUCH A DESPICABLE PLAN! I'M GLAD I TRAILED HIM! IT WILL BE A PLEASURE FOR ME TO EXPOSE HIM!
DR. LARRON M.D.

LOIS, OVERHEARING CLARK'S CONSENT TO TRAP SUPERMAN, DROPS HER POCKETBOOK IN THE SHOCK OF HER ANGER
OHH-HH!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

A GIRL!
SEIZE HER!

LET ME GO!
235

LOIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU KNOW HER? IF YOU'RE TRYING TO PULL ANYTHING...!

WHO IS THIS GIRL?
A REPORTER ON MY PAPER... SHE MUST HAVE TRAILED ME HERE!
I NEVER DID LIKE YOU...AND NOW I SEE THAT MY INSTINCTIVE DISLIKE FOR YOU WAS WELL FOUNDED!

WELL, I KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH CURIOUS WOMEN!
WAIT!

HOW DARE YOU INTERFERE?
DON'T SHOOT HER! KIDNAP HER! SUPERMAN HAS RESCUED HER BEFORE! HE MAY BE LURED TO THE WAREHOUSE BY THIS STRATEGY!
236

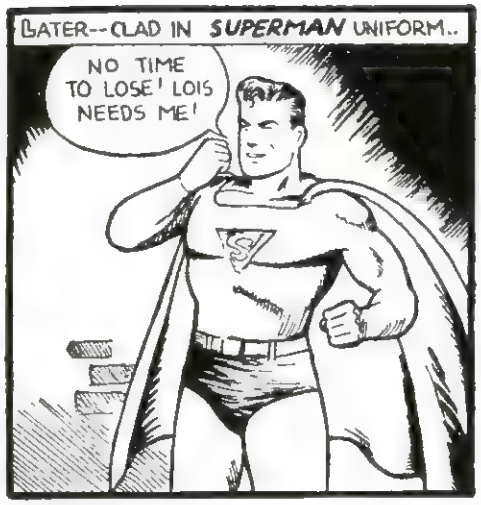
A SPLENDID SUGGESTION!
YOU--- YOU FILTHY TRAITOR!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

AT KING BORU'S RESIDENCE, BREAKFAST IS BEING SERVED....
GOOD MORNING, YOUR MAGESTY.
GOOD MORNING!
UNSEEN BY THE ROYAL COUPLE, THE TRAITOROUS SERVANT DROPS A DRUG INTO THEIR COFFEE!...
237
SHORTLY AFTER...
I--I'M GETTING DIZZY!
FATHER--!
HURRY! OUT THE BACK WAY WITH THEM!
WE MUST ACT QUICKLY OR OUR LIVES WILL BE FORFEIT!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
THE UNCONSCIOUS FIGURES OF THE KING AND PRINCESS OF RANGORIA ARE PLACED WITHIN A CAR AT THE REAR OF THEIR RESIDENCE....
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
AND A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE AUTO DRIVES OFF SWIFTLY WITH ITS ROYAL CAPTIVES!
WITHIN DR. LARRON'S OFFICE....
YOU PRINT THE STORY OF THE GIRL'S KIDNAPPING AS A BAIT FOR SUPERMAN!
I'VE A HUNCH THAT'LL DO THE TRICK!
238
COME ALONG, GIRLIE!

HOW CAN YOU STAND BY AND LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS?
YOU FORGET THAT I'M ONE OF THEM!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

TOO BAD, LOIS, BUT MY HANDS ARE TIED... FOR THE PRESENT!
239

SWIFTLY, CLARK LOCATES A PUBLIC TELEPHONE....
DAILY STAR? CLARK KENT SPEAKING. LOIS LANE HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED! I'M OFF TO FOLLOW A CLUE!


LATER--CLAD IN SUPERMAN UNIFORM..
NO TIME TO LOSE! LOIS NEEDS ME!

AS THE CONSPIRATORS' CAR DRAWS UP BEFORE THE KENYON WAREHOUSE, LOIS IS HUSTLED WITHIN THE BUILDING....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M A CAPTIVE LIKE YOURSELF!
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED. I'M SURE THAT SUPERMAN WILL COME TO OUR RESCUE AGAIN, AND WHEN HE DOES...

AND WHEN HE DOES, I WILL BE DELIGHTED TO GREET HIM! I HAVE AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE FOR THE MAN OF STEEL!

SUPERMAN IS STREAKING DOWN TOWARD THE WAREHOUSE AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF A RECEPTION THEY'VE PREPARED FOR ME?
240

KOBER!-HOW DARE YOU CONSPIRE AGAINST YOUR KING? I COMMAND...
YOU FORGET THAT I AM NOW IN THE POSITION TO ISSUE COMMANDS, YOUR MAJESTY! THERE ARE CERTAIN PAPERS I'D LIKE YOU TO SIGN!
HE'LL NEVER SIGN THEM! SUPERMAN WILL HELP US!

I SHALL ATTEND TO THIS FANTASTIC SUPERMAN WHO HAS BEFRIENDED YOU. IT'S OBVIOUS I'M NO MATCH FOR HIM PHYSICALLY, AND SO...
241

I AM PREPARED FOR HIM! BEHOLD! GIANT WHIRLING MIRRORS TO RENDER HIM HELPLESS THROUGH HYPNOTISM!

YOU WON'T SUCCEED!
WON'T I? PERHAPS A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND!
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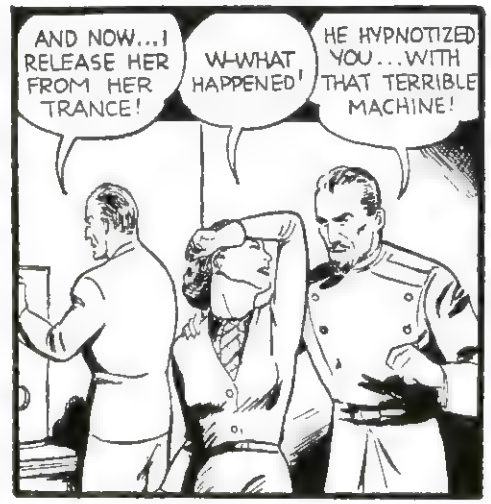
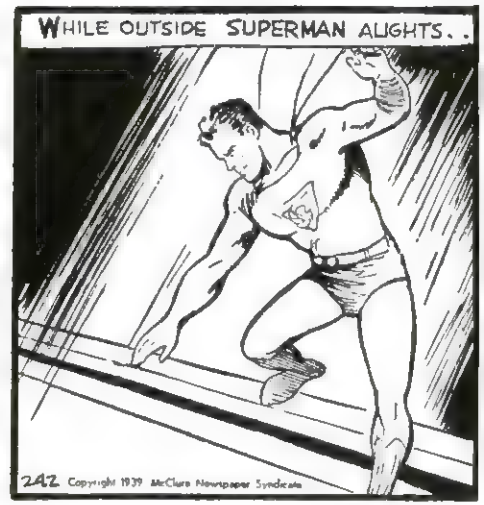
TO DEMONSTRATE THE POWER OF HIS HYPNOTIC MACHINE, KOBER TRAINS HIS MIRRORS ON LOIS, PULLS A SWITCH
WATCH HER CLOSELY!
DON'T HARM THAT GIRL!

...BLINDING LIGHTS BLAZE DOWN AT LOIS, TRANSFIXING HER!
YOU SEE? SHE IS RIGID...HELPLESS...SUBJECT TO MY EVERY WHIM!
YOU--- MONSTER..!


AND NOW...I RELEASE HER FROM HER TRANCE!
W-WHAT HAPPENED!
HE HYPNOTIZED YOU...WITH THAT TERRIBLE MACHINE!


WHILE OUTSIDE SUPERMAN ALIGHTS..
242 Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

ACCORDING TO THIS PHOTO-ELECTRIC EYE SIGNAL, YOUR WOULD-BE RESCUER HAS JUST ALIGHTED UPON THE ROOF! IN A FEW MOMENTS YOU WILL SEE HOW POWERLESS HIS STEELY MUSCLES ARE AGAINST MY SUPERIOR MIND!

FINDING THE SKYLIGHT LOCKED, SUPERMAN RIPS IT OPEN....
SOMEWHERE IN THIS BUILDING LOIS IS HELD CAPTIVE! I MUST GET TO HER QUICKLY!
243

...DROPPING DOWN INTO A HALL....
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HE CAUTIOUSLY MAKES HIS WAY ALONG IT UNTIL...
VOICES -- ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL!

HEARING VOICES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL, SUPERMAN GOES INTO ACTION....
HERE GOES!
Copyright

244

YOU'VE MET YOUR MATCH, SUPERMAN!

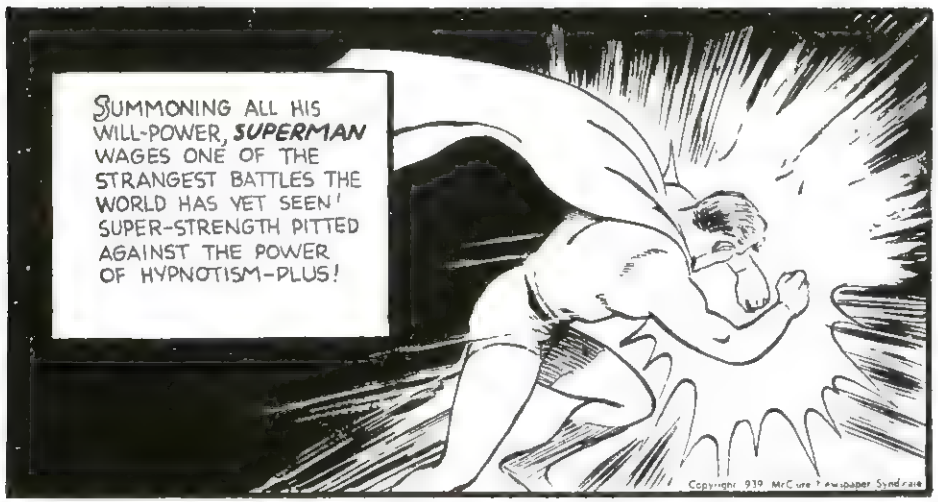
INSTANTLY, SEARING LIGHT-BEAMS FLASH FROM THE WHIRLING MIRRORS, BOMBARDING THE MAN OF STEEL!

AS SUPERMAN IS BOMBARDED BY BEAMS FROM THE WHIRLING MIRRORS . . . .
THOSE LIGHTS! I-I CAN'T SEE A THING!
245

LOOK!
HE'S STOPPED --- SEEMS BEWILDERED!
HE MUST BREAK THE SPELL OF THOSE RAYS! HE MUST!

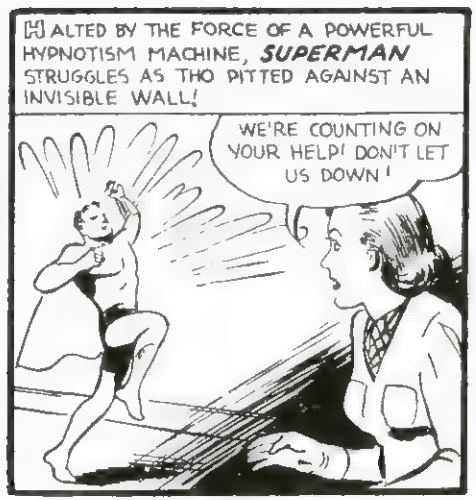
WHILE THE HYPNOTIC VOICE OF KOBER DRONES INTO AN AMPLIFIER. . .
HEAR ME, SUPERMAN! --YOUR STRENGTH IS DEPARTING--YOU ARE GROWING WEAKER-- WEAKER--

Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
WEAKER? --NO---!....


SUMMONING ALL HIS WILL-POWER, SUPERMAN WAGES ONE OF THE STRANGEST BATTLES THE WORLD HAS YET SEEN! SUPER-STRENGTH PITTED AGAINST THE POWER OF HYPNOTISM-PLUS!
Copyright 1939, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

HE'S FIGHTING HIS WAY TOWARD KOBER --STEP BY STEP!
DON'T YIELD, SUPERMAN! YOU'RE GAINING!
246

NO MAN HAS SUFFICIENT WILL-POWER TO WITHSTAND THIS MACHINE! HE MUST FALTER---HE MUST!


HALTED BY THE FORCE OF A POWERFUL HYPNOTISM MACHINE, SUPERMAN STRUGGLES AS THO PITTED AGAINST AN INVISIBLE WALL!
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOUR HELP! DON'T LET US DOWN!

SUDDENLY--BREAKING FREE OF THE HYPNOTIC SPELL, SUPERMAN LEAPS FORWARD . . .
HE'S FREE!
NOW TO FINISH WHAT I'VE STARTED!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

STOP HIM! SHOOT HIM DOWN!

IN AN INSTANT, SUPERMAN REACHES THE HUGE MIRRORS AND SMASHES THEM TO BITS . . . .
WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM! IT'LL BE EITHER HIM OR US!
IT'S GOING TO BE YOU!
247

THE TERRIFIED PLOTTERS FLEE BEFORE SUPERMAN'S RUSH . . . .
STOP HIM, SOMEBODY!
YOU- STOP HIM!
DON'T ARGUE, BOYS! I'LL STOP YOU BOTH!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

--LIKE THIS!
248

GET THRU THAT PANEL, QUICK!
I WON'T GO!
DON'T DELAY, OR HE'LL SHOOT YOU DOWN!

AS SUPERMAN SPRINGS TOWARD THE DEPARTING FIGURES, THE WALL PANEL SPRINGS SHUT!
TCH! TCH! --SUCH POOR MANNERS!

FASTER, FASTER! I'LL SHOOT THE FIRST ONE WHO LAGS BEHIND!

MOMENTARILY DELAYED BY A CLOSED PANEL, SUPERMAN HURLS HIMSELF AT IT..
IF HE THINKS HE'S GOING TO GET AWAY...
249

. HE'S GOT ANOTHER GUESS COMING!

FORWARD STREAKS SUPERMAN! --- SECONDS LATER, HE SIGHTS THOSE HE SEEKS!
IT WON'T BE LONG, NOW!
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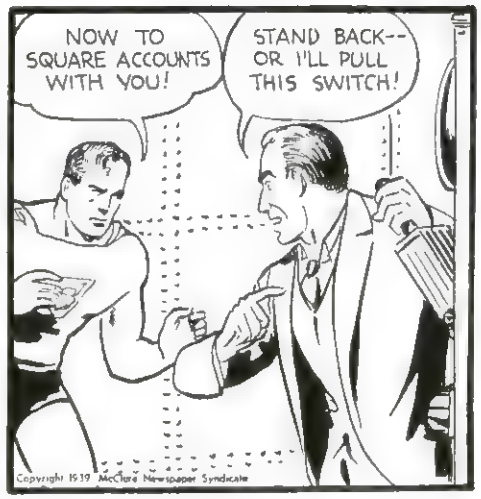
AS SUPERMAN APPROACHES, KOBER FORCES HIS CAPTIVES INTO A METAL-LINED ROOM...
HE'LL NEVER GET ME! I FORESAW THIS POSSIBILITY!


NOW TO SQUARE ACCOUNTS WITH YOU!
STAND BACK-- OR I'LL PULL THIS SWITCH!
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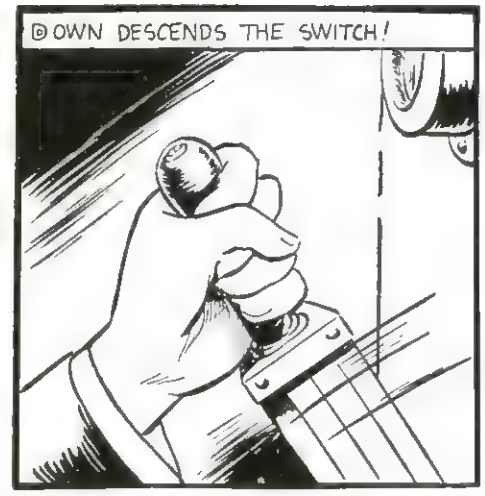
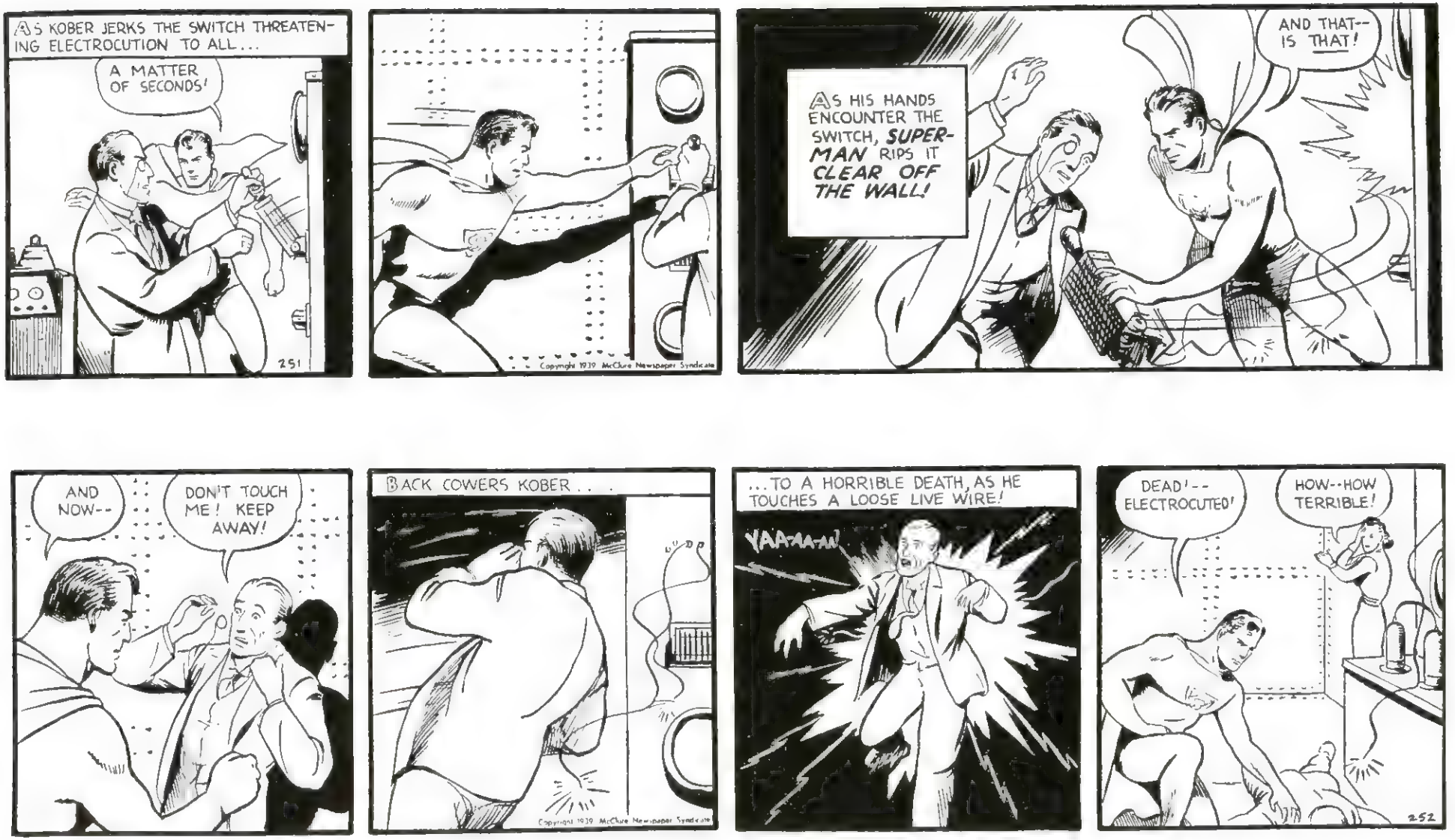
THIS SWITCH CAN KILL US ALL! THIS ROOM IS ELECTRICALLY LINED. THE MOMENT THE CONNECTION IS MADE, WE'LL ALL BE ELECTROCUTED!
250


DOWN DESCENDS THE SWITCH!


AS KOBER JERKS THE SWITCH THREATENING ELECTROCUTION TO ALL...
A MATTER OF SECONDS!
251
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
AS HIS HANDS ENCOUNTER THE SWITCH, SUPERMAN RIPS IT CLEAR OFF THE WALL!
AND THAT-- IS THAT!
AND NOW--
DON'T TOUCH ME! KEEP AWAY!
BACK COWERS KOBER . . .
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate
...TO A HORRIBLE DEATH, AS HE TOUCHES A LOOSE LIVE WIRE!
YAA-AA-AA
DEAD!-- ELECTROCUTED!
HOW--HOW TERRIBLE!
252

YOU HAVE THE GRATITUDE OF A KING!
ONLY TOO GLAD TO HELP OUT A PAL, BORU!
Copyright 1939 McClure Newspaper Syndicate

YOU WONDERFUL MAN!
I'M SO HAPPY I COULD KISS YOU... I WILL KISS YOU!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
THE POLICE!
HELLO, CAPTAIN! THIS IS ONE TIME I'M CERTAINLY GLAD TO SEE YOU.

BEGORRA! I'VE DONE IT!...I'VE CAPTURED SUPERMAN!
MY CONGRATULATIONS CAPTAIN.
253

SO I'VE CAPTURED THE FAMOUS SUPERMAN! THIS IS GOIN' TO BE QUITE A FEATHER IN MY CAP!
I HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU, CAPTAIN, BUT--

...CAPTURING ME, AND HOLDING ME, ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS!
STOP HIM! HE MUSN'T GET AWAY!
254

A CHASE ENSUES, UNTIL...
THERE HE GOES! AN' I ALMOST HAD MY HANDS ON HIM!

THE COMMISSIONER WILL BE DISAPPOINTED. HE WANTS TO KNOW THAT GUY BETTER!
WHAT A MAN!—THEY DON'T COME LIKE THAT IN RANGORIA!
AND THEY DON'T COME LIKE THAT HERE EITHER.
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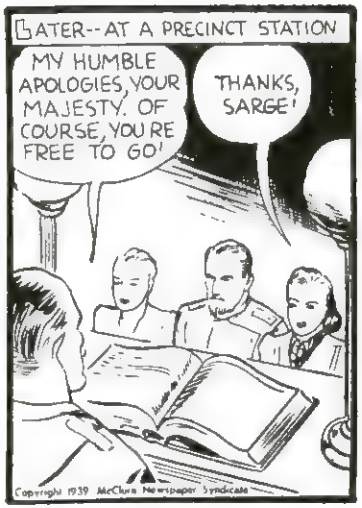
HOLD ON! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
I'M A REPORTER ...MUST TURN IN THIS STORY!
SORRY, BUT YOU'LL ALL HAVE TO COME ALONG TO THE STATION!
BUT I TELL YOU I'M THE KING OF RAN-GORIA!
YEAH?-AN' I'M LITTLE LORD FAUNT-LEROY'S LONG LOST BROTHER!


LATER--AT A PRECINCT STATION
MY HUMBLE APOLOGIES, YOUR MAJESTY. OF COURSE, YOU'RE FREE TO GO!
THANKS, SARGE!
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HAVE I A STORY! THIS OUGHT TO GET ME OFF THE LOVE-LORN ASSIGNMENT AND INTO THE NEWS COLUMNS!

OUT OF MY WAY, YOU ORDINARY MORTALS! I'VE JUST UNCOVERED A YARN THAT'LL MAKE HISTORY! WHERE'S THE CHIEF?
IN HIS OFFICE, WONDERING WHERE YOU'VE BEEN!
255

A FRONT PAGE SCOOP---!
--AND I'M GOING TO HAND IT TO YOU ON A PLATTER!
MAKE SENSE!

IT'S STARTLING NEWS! YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EARS! FIRST--CLARK KENT IS A TRAITOR WHO WORKS HAND IN GLOVE WITH KIDNAPPERS AND MURDERERS, AND...
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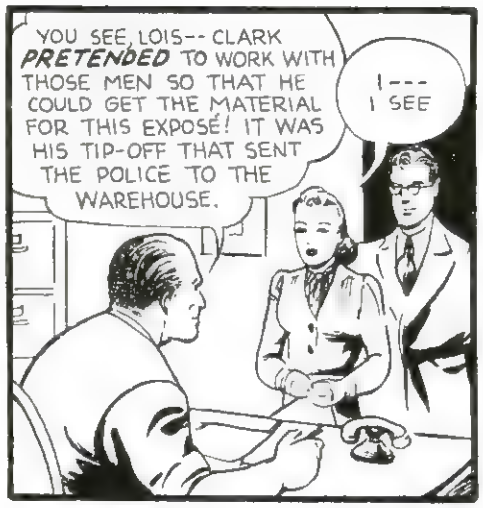
SOMEONE MENTION MY NAME?
256

CLARK KENT!--YOU DARE TO SHOW YOUR FACE AROUND HERE! YOU SCOUNDREL!

DON'T TRY TO DENY THAT YOU WORKED WITH THOSE KILLERS. YOU...
BEFORE YOU SAY ANY MORE, READ THIS EXTRA!
257

YOU'VE SCOOPED ME ON THE STORY! EXPOSED THE RANGORIAN PLOTTERS!


YOU SEE, LOIS-- CLARK PRETENDED TO WORK WITH THOSE MEN SO THAT HE COULD GET THE MATERIAL FOR THIS EXPOSÉ! IT WAS HIS TIP-OFF THAT SENT THE POLICE TO THE WAREHOUSE.
I--- I SEE

PLEASE FORGIVE ME. I-- I'VE BEEN A FOOL!
AREN'T WE ALL ---AT TIMES?

SEVERAL DAYS LATER . . .
I REGRET THAT WE MUST RETURN TO RANGORIA SO QUICKLY, BUT CONDITIONS MAKE IT IMPERATIVE!
I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU GAVE ME MY BIGGEST SCOOP!
AND WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE HATS AMERICAN WOMEN WEAR?
THEY'RE ODD-BUT I ADORE THEM
258

YOU'RE BOTH CORDIALLY INVITED TO VISIT RANGORIA AS MY GUESTS, ANY TIME YOU PLEASE!
THANKS, YOUR HIGHNESS!
WE MAY TAKE YOU UP!
PLEASE DO!

I WISH WITH ALL MY HEART THAT SOMEDAY, SOMEWHERE, I WILL ENCOUNTER SUPERMAN AGAIN.
PERHAPS YOU WILL ...WHO KNOWS?

AND AS THE ROYAL YACHT BEGINS ITS RETURN JOURNEY . . . . .
YOU KNOW, I HATE TO SEE THEM GO, THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN A ROYAL COUPLE, BUT ..
--THEY WERE TOPS!

EPISODE NINE
UNDERWORLD POLITICS

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

War on Crime

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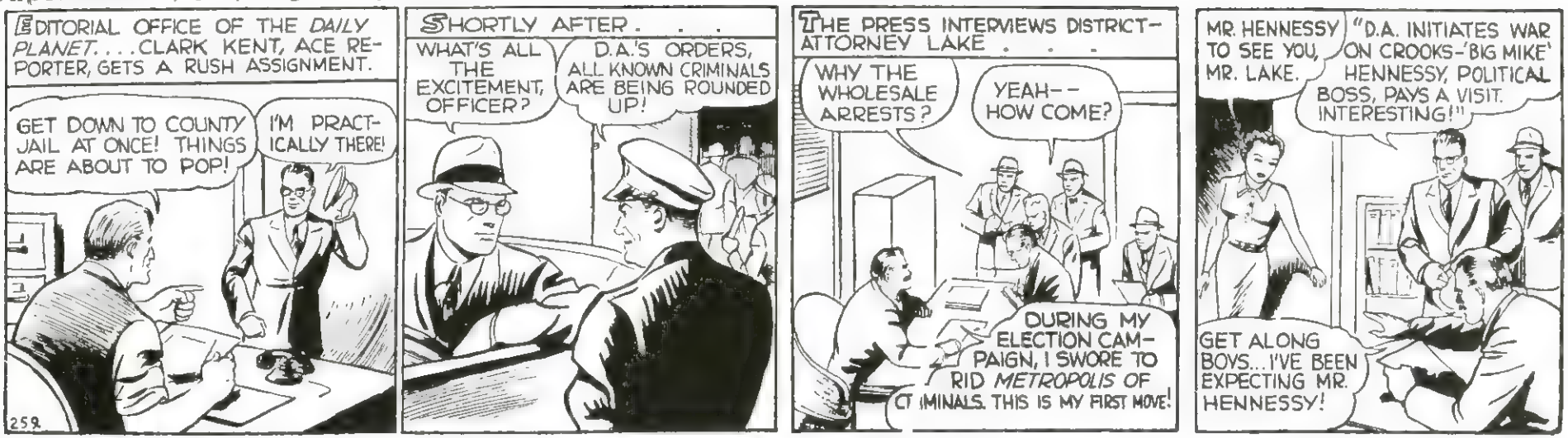

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Clark Wins a Bet

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A Signal

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Prepared for Action.

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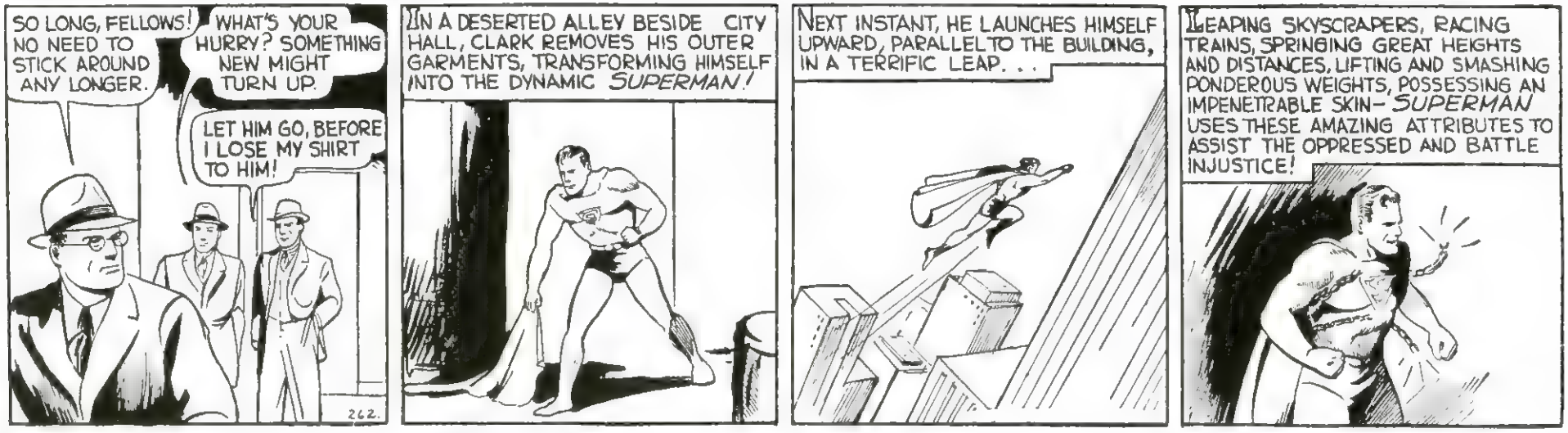

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An Impertinent Query.

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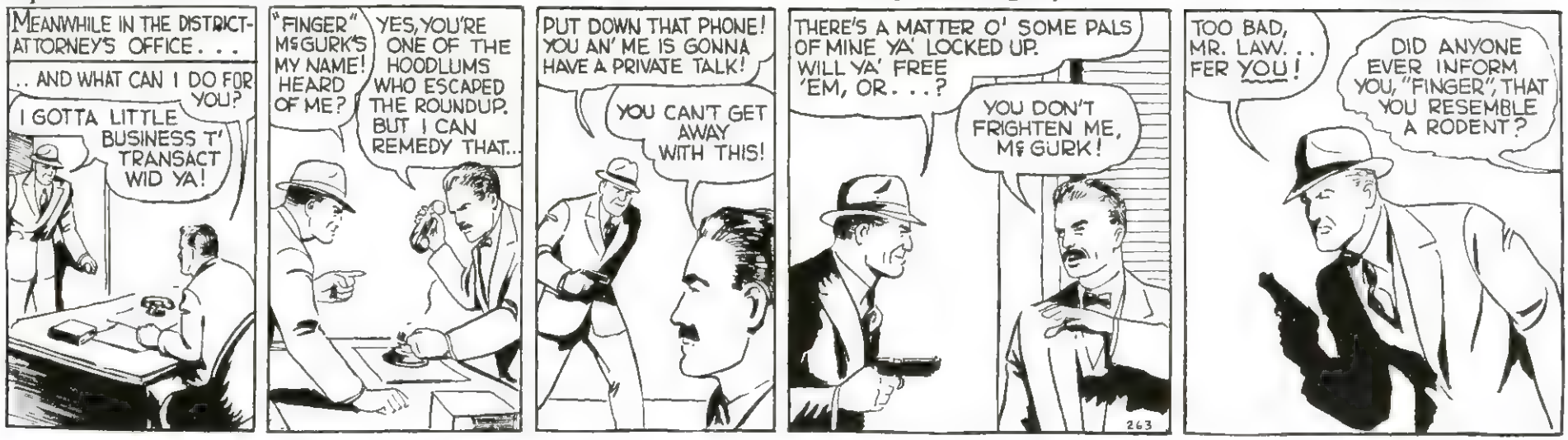

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Superman Acquiesces

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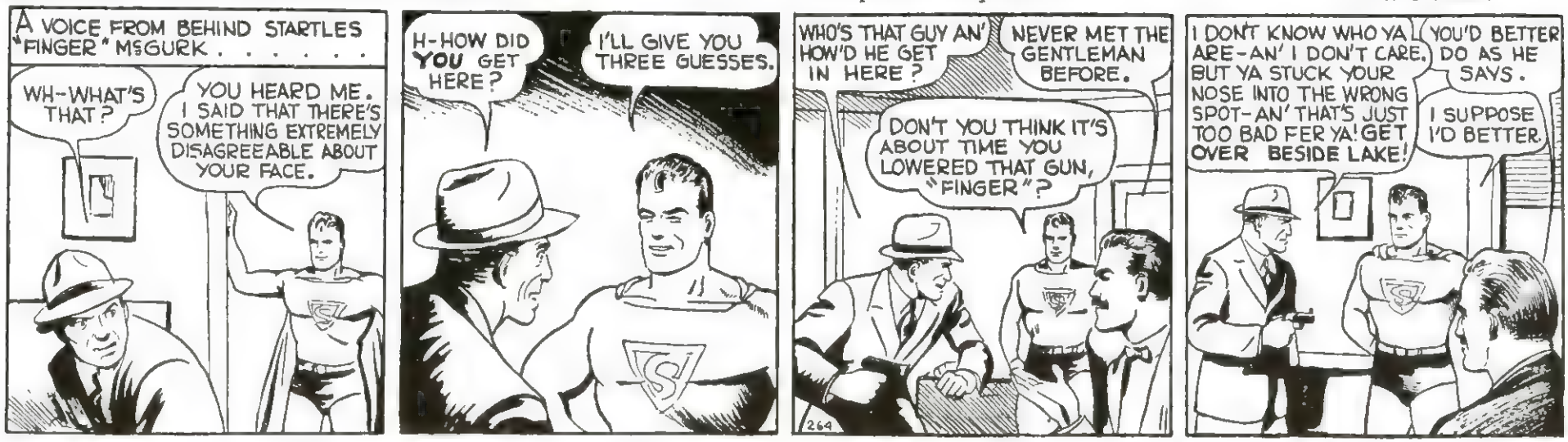

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Superman Grins

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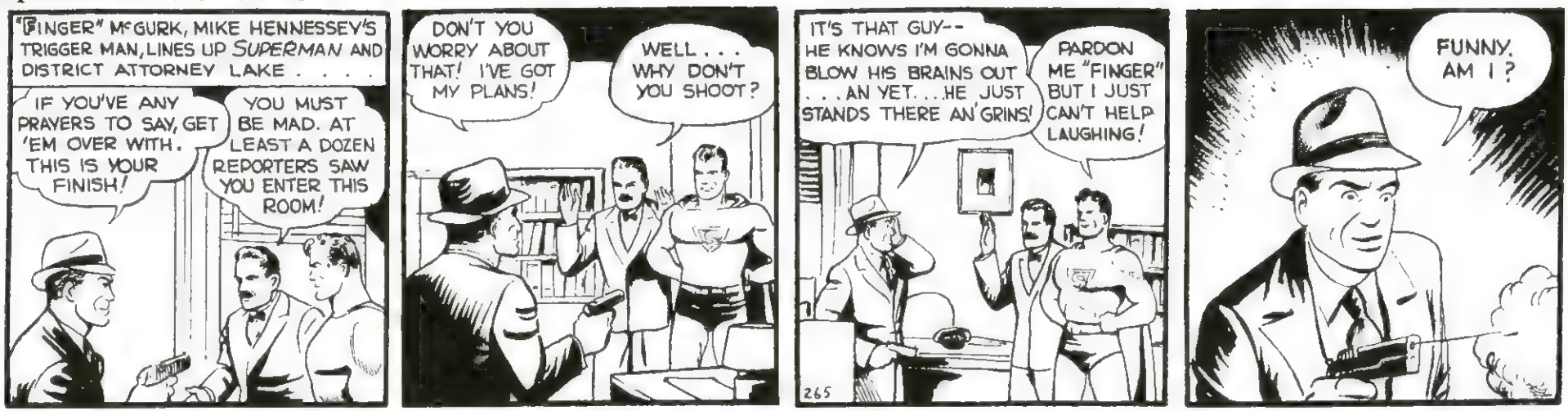

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Returning Bullets

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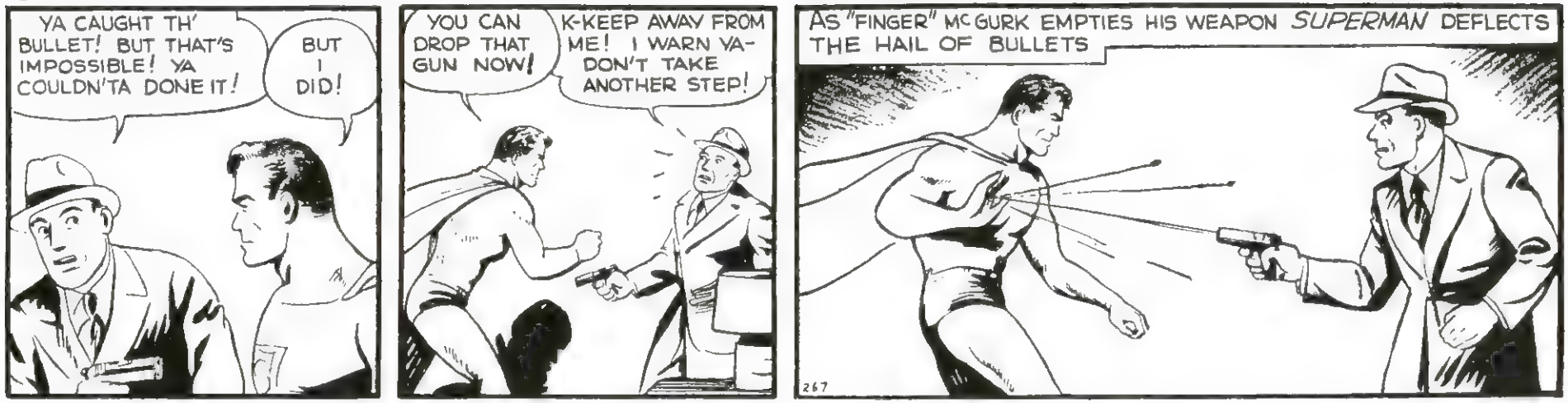

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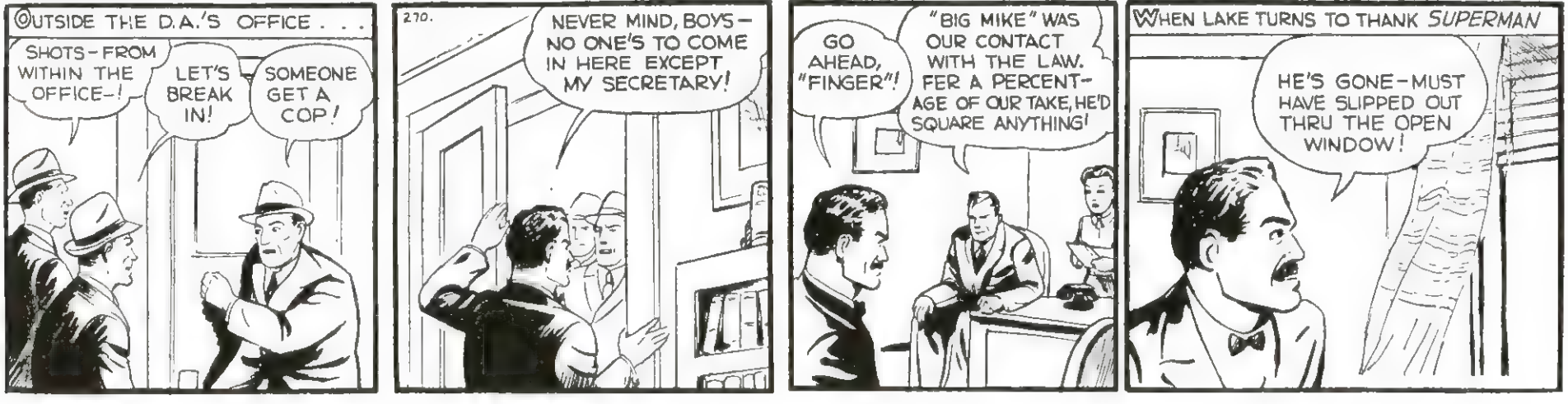

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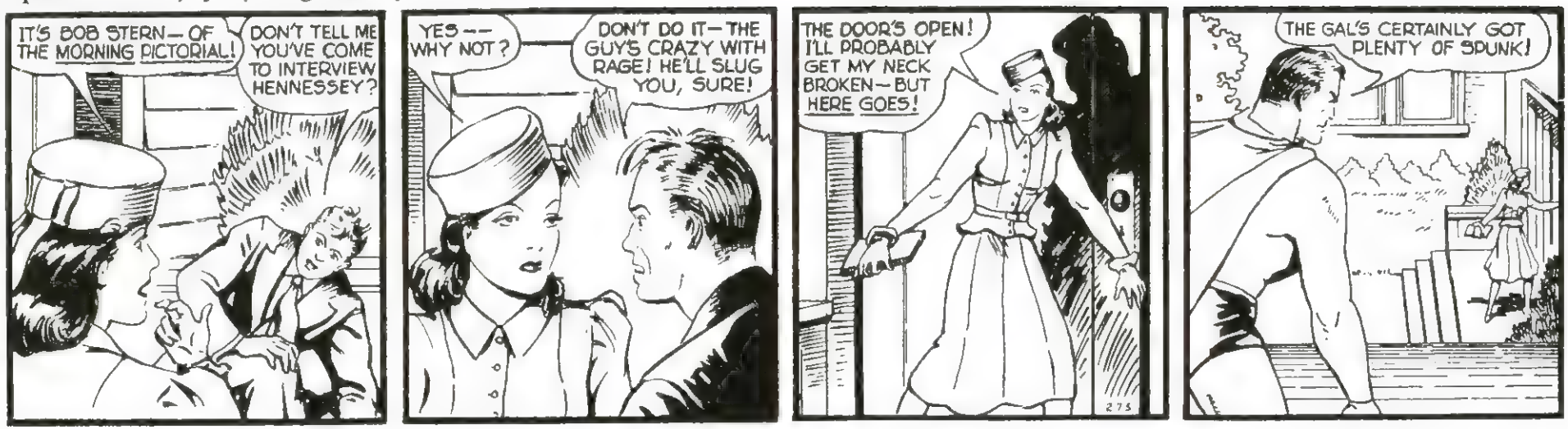

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Surprise!

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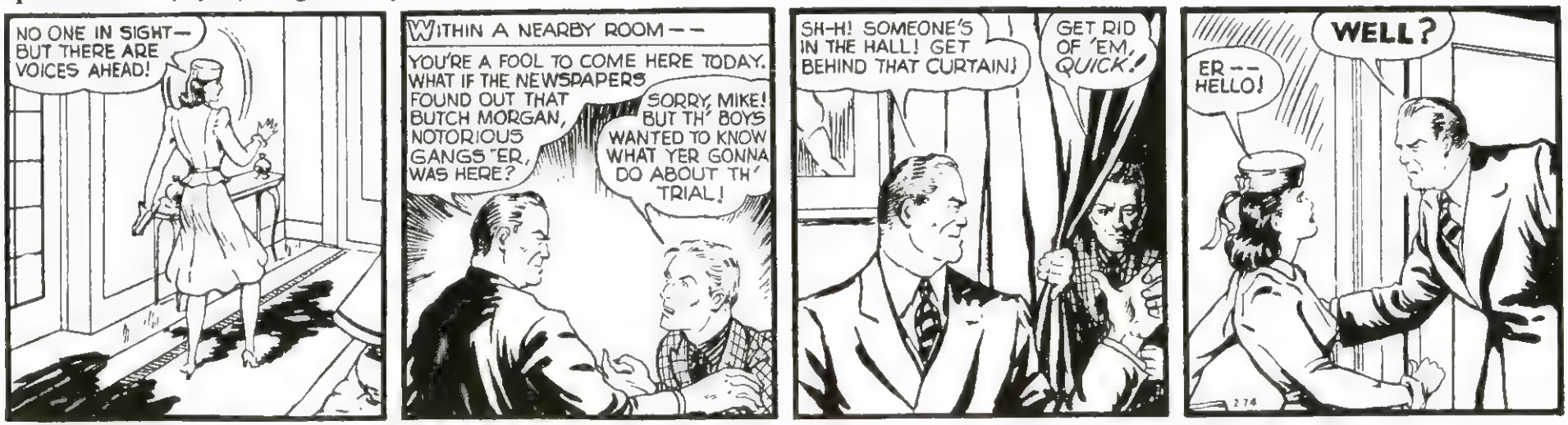

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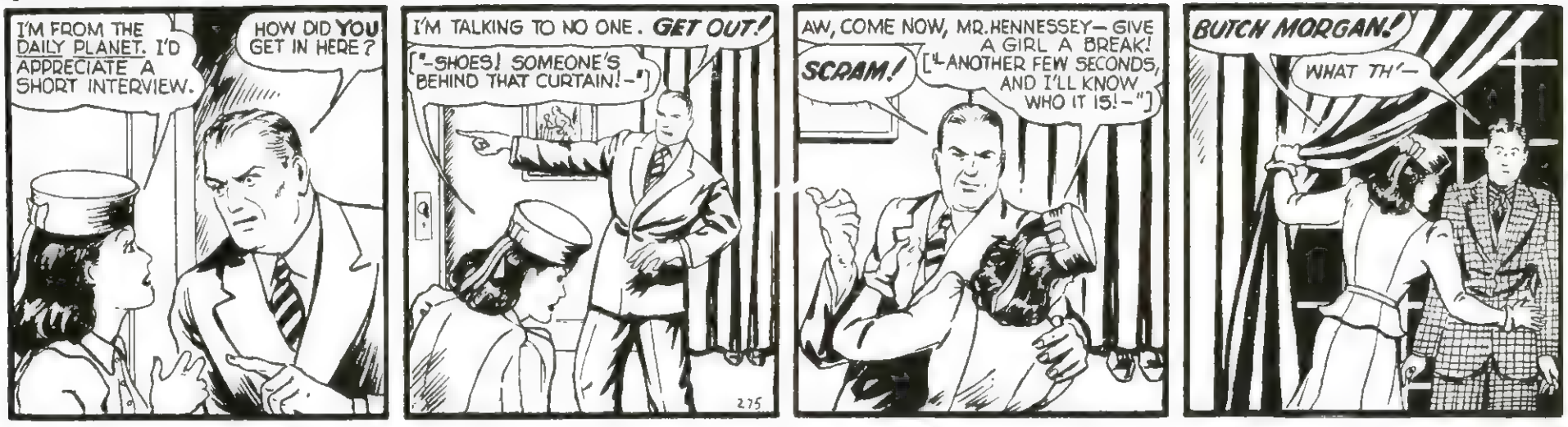

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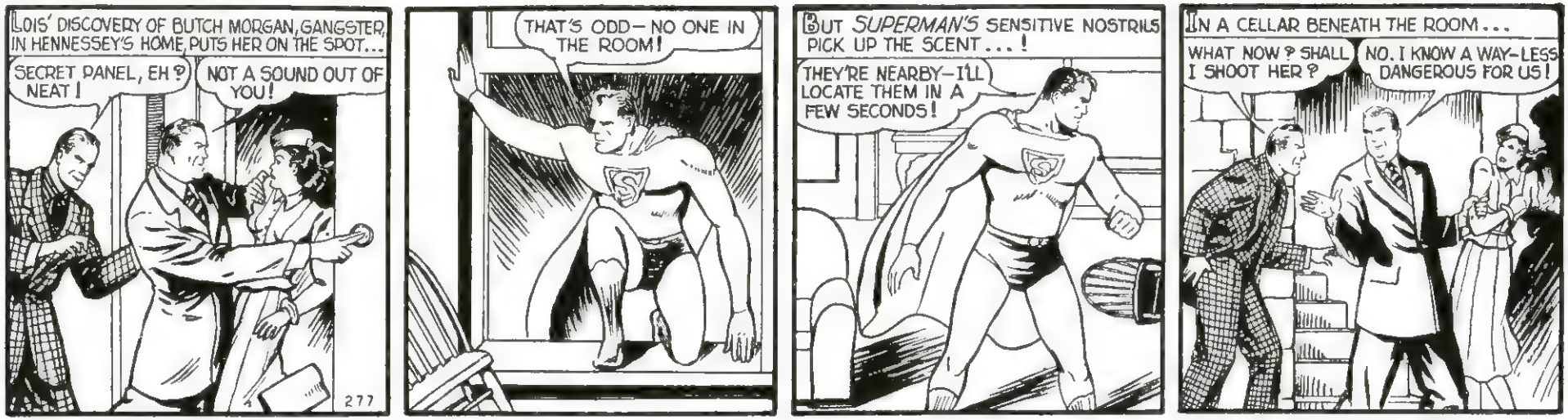

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Just in Time

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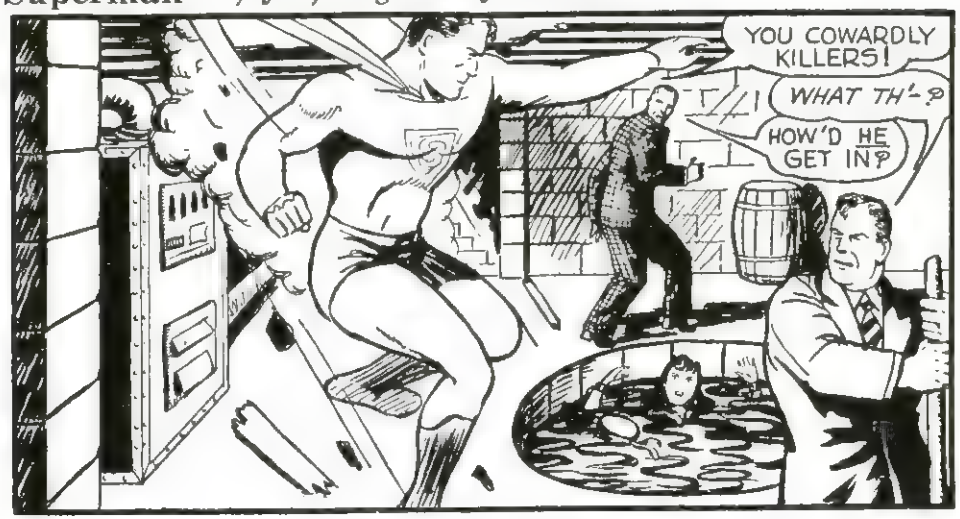

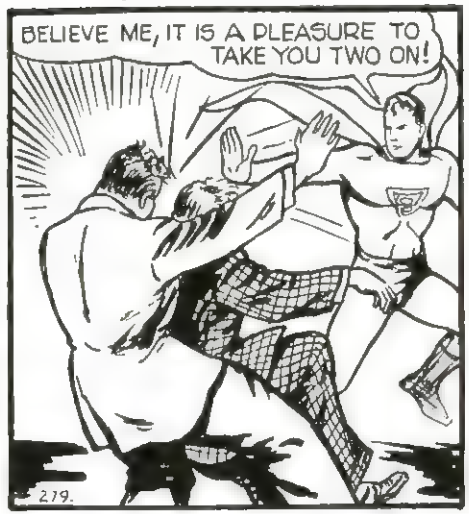

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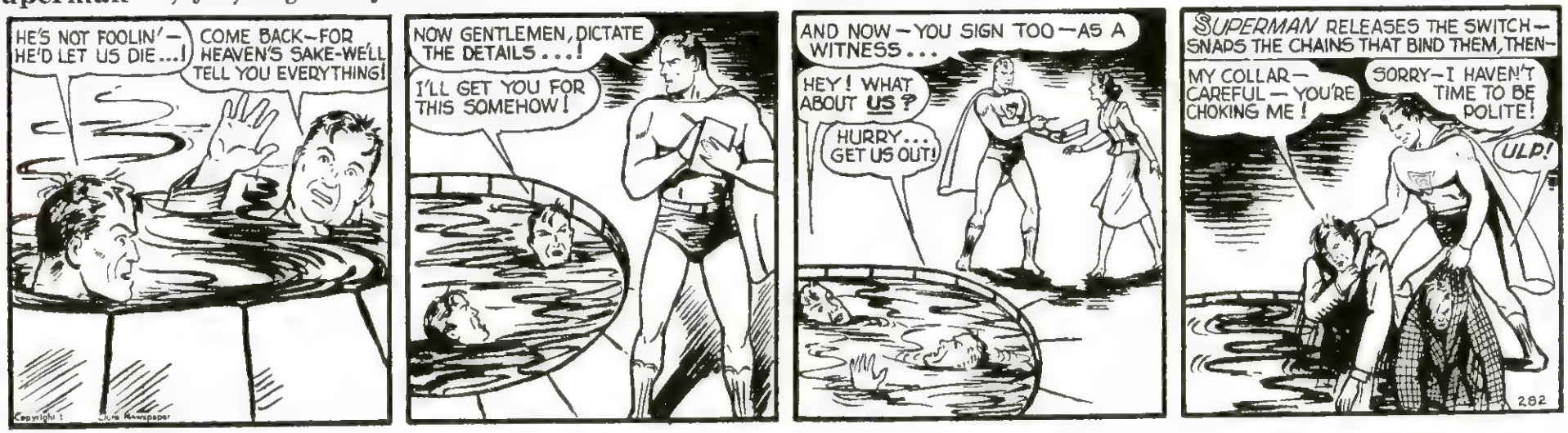

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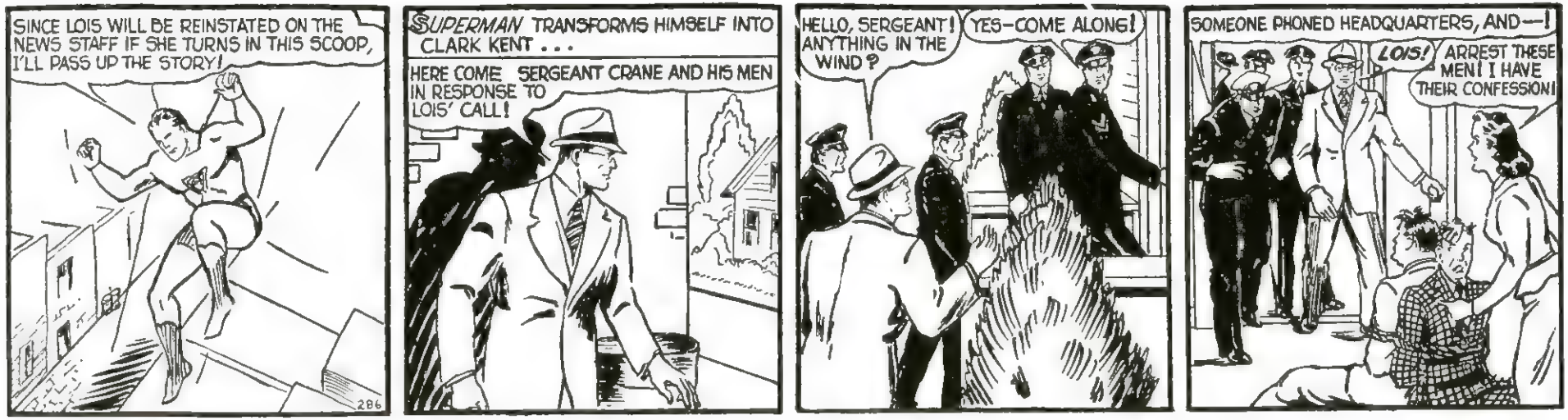

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On the Front Page.

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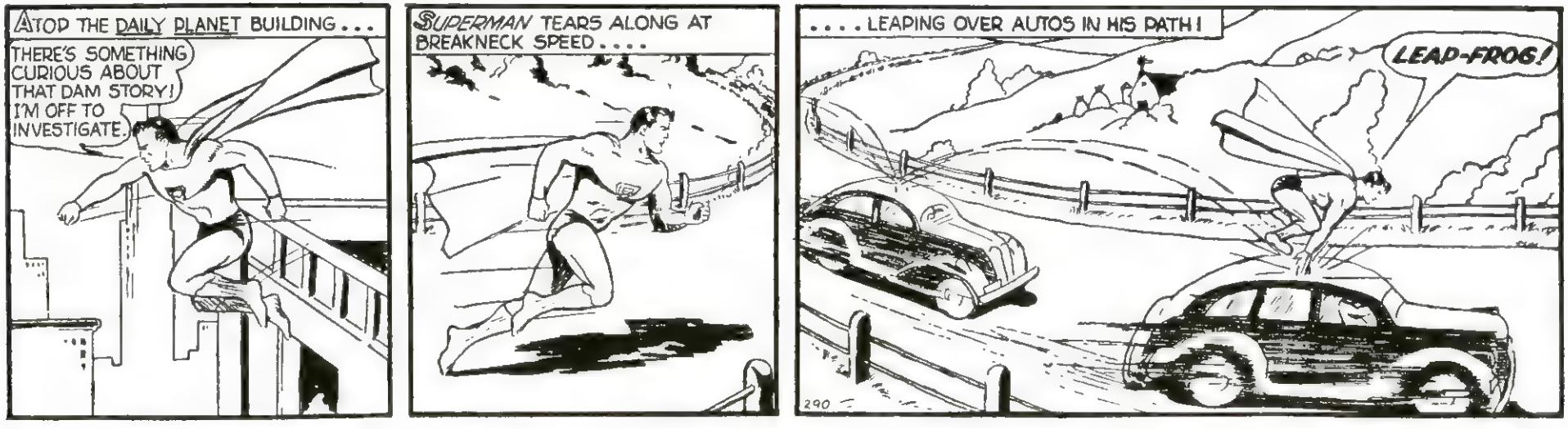

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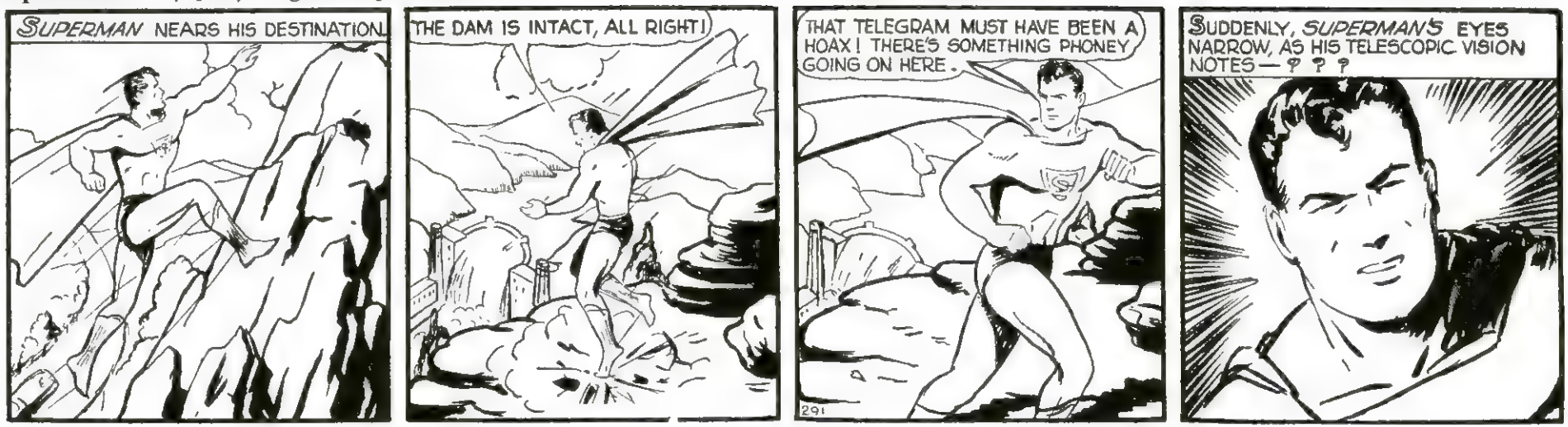

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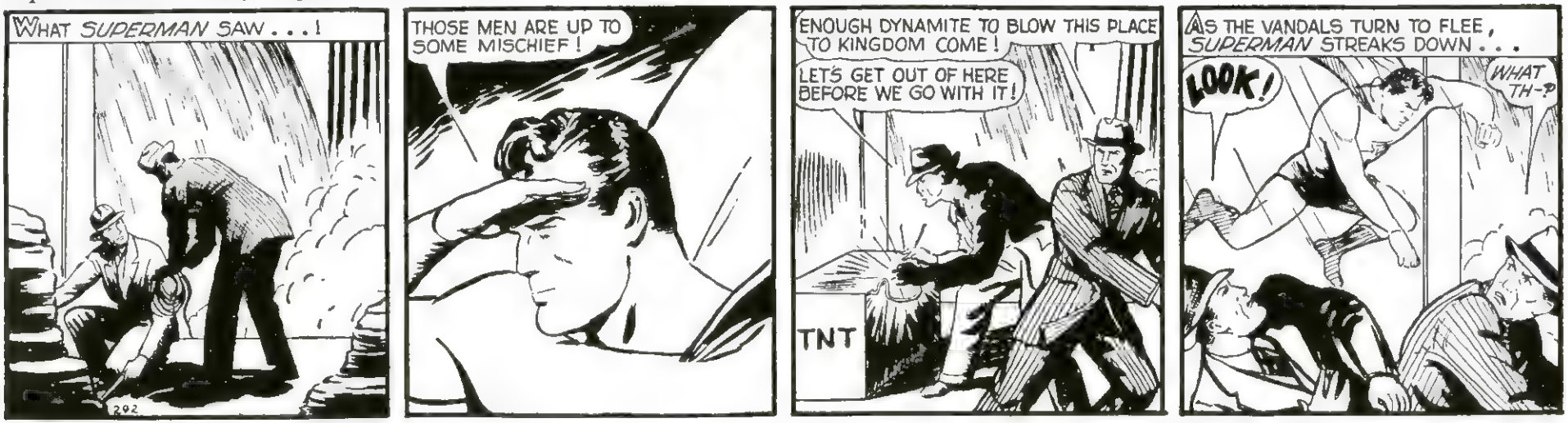

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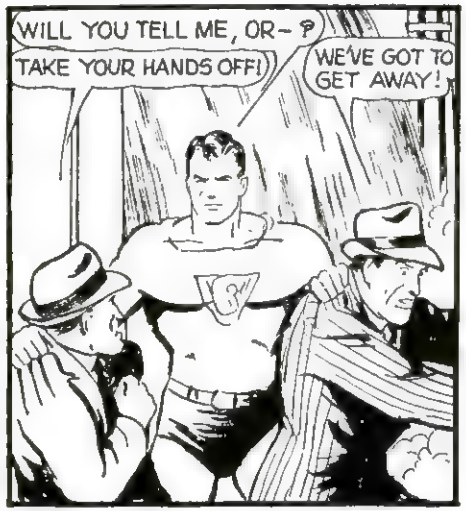

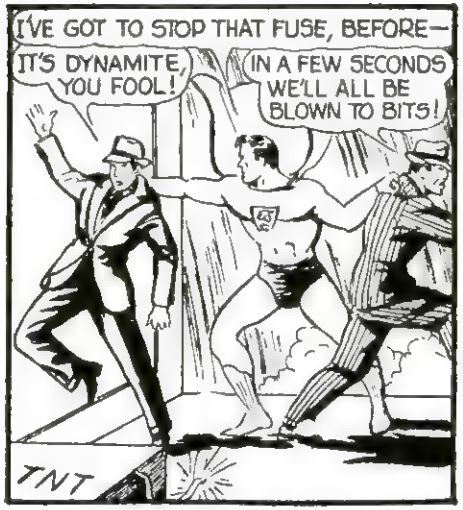

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All Wet

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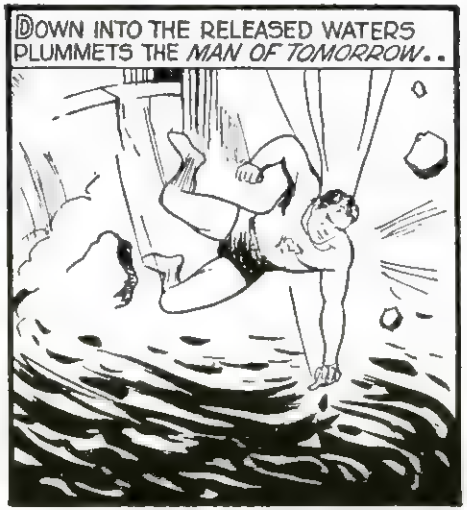

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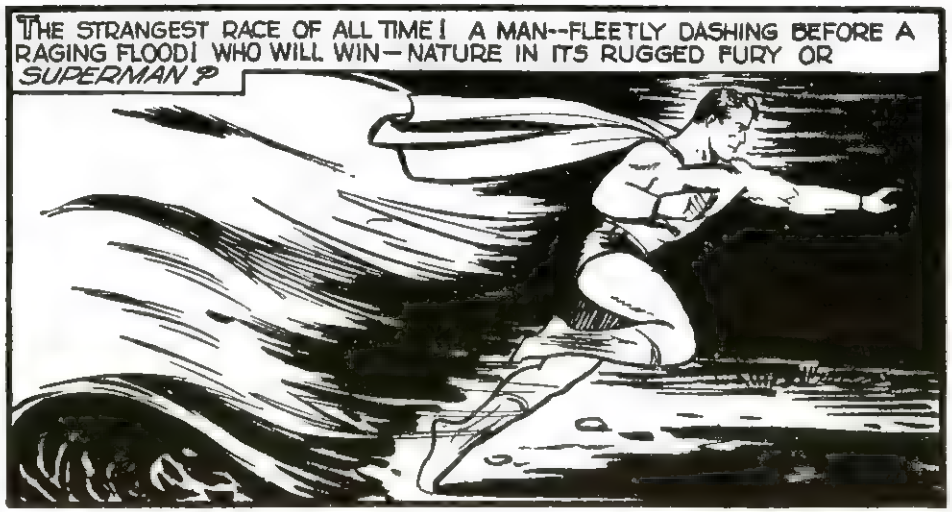

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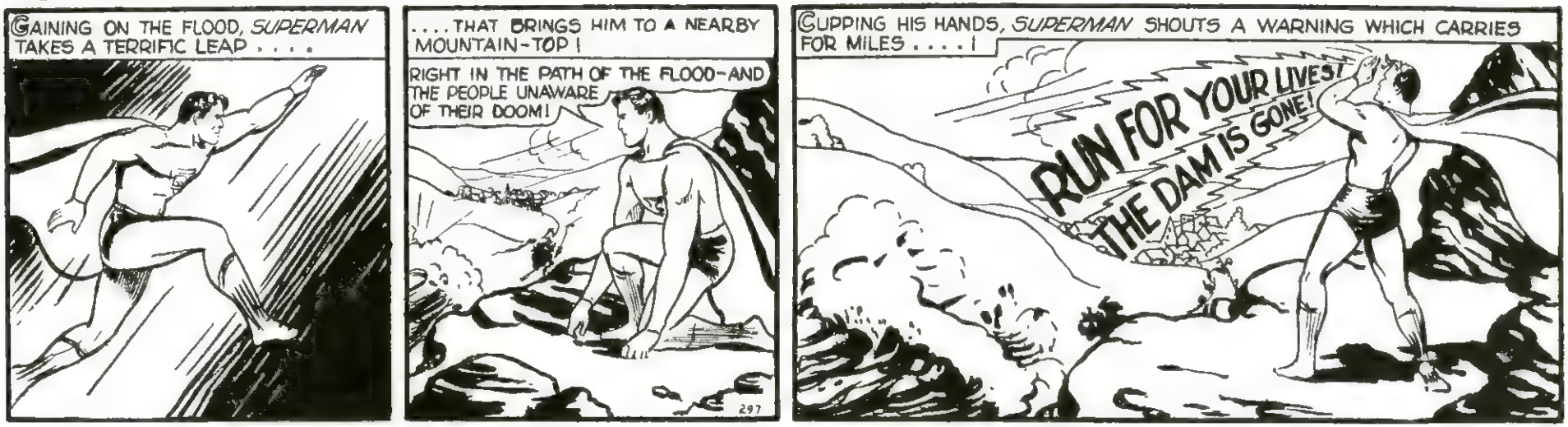

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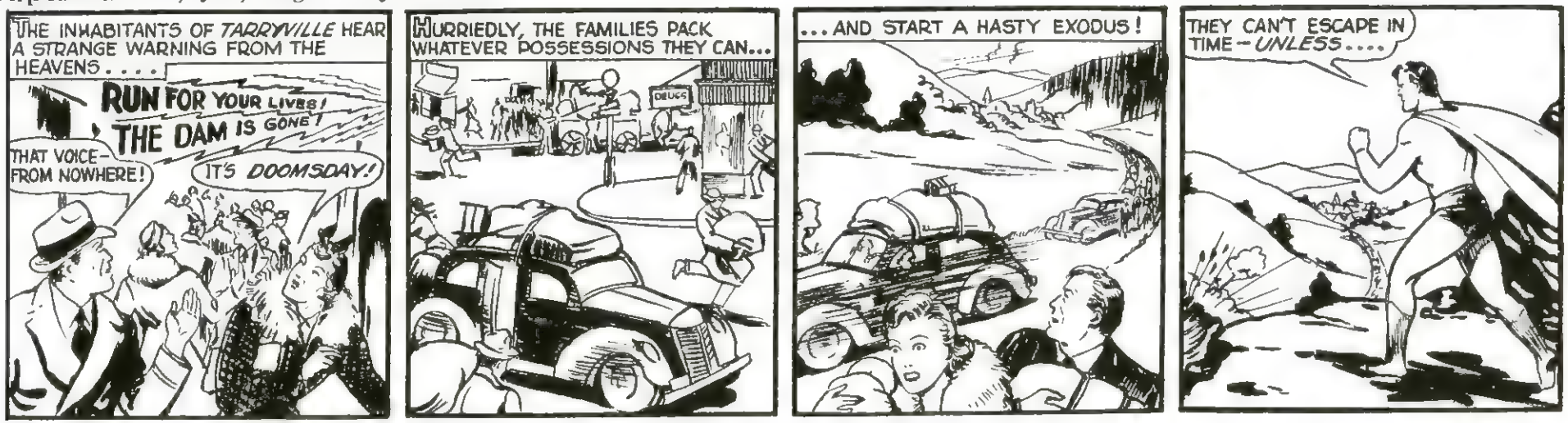

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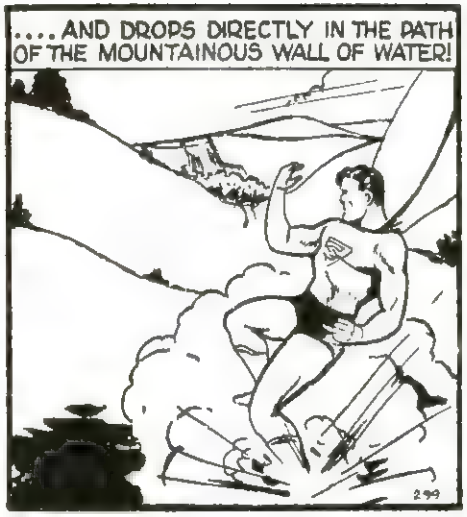

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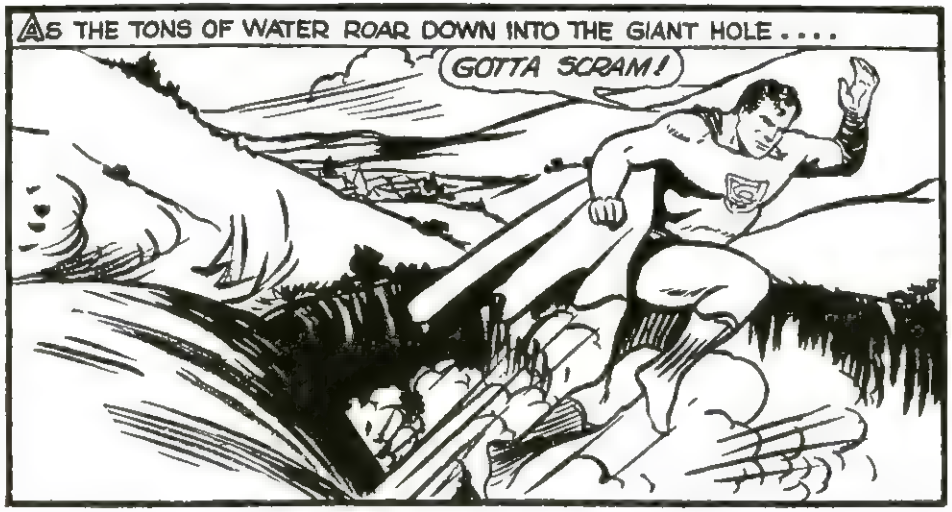

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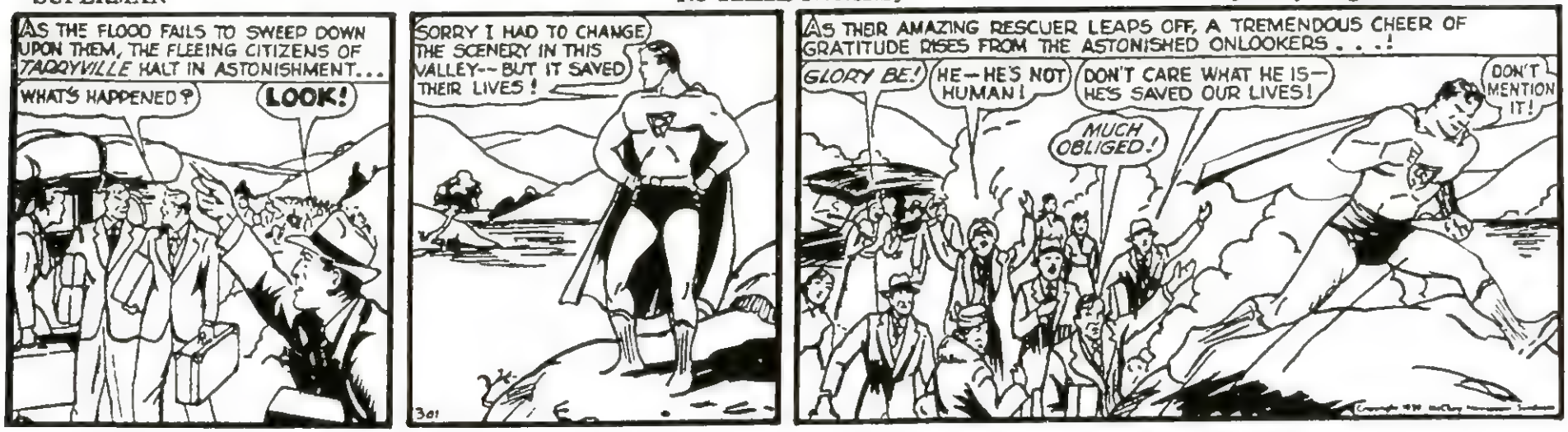

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Look Out, Blackie!

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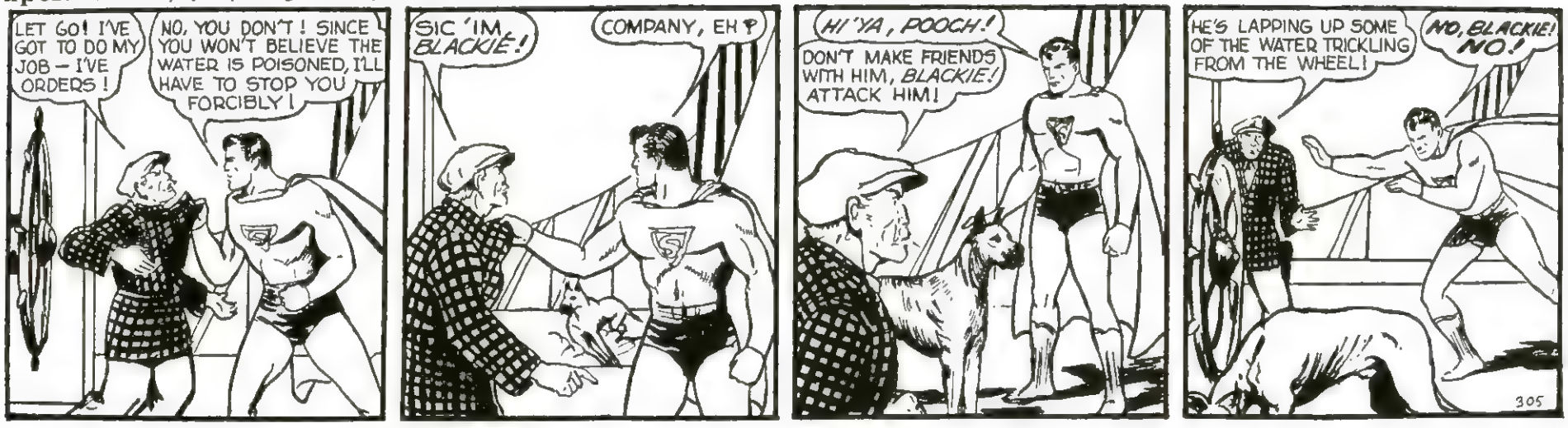

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A Canine Martyr

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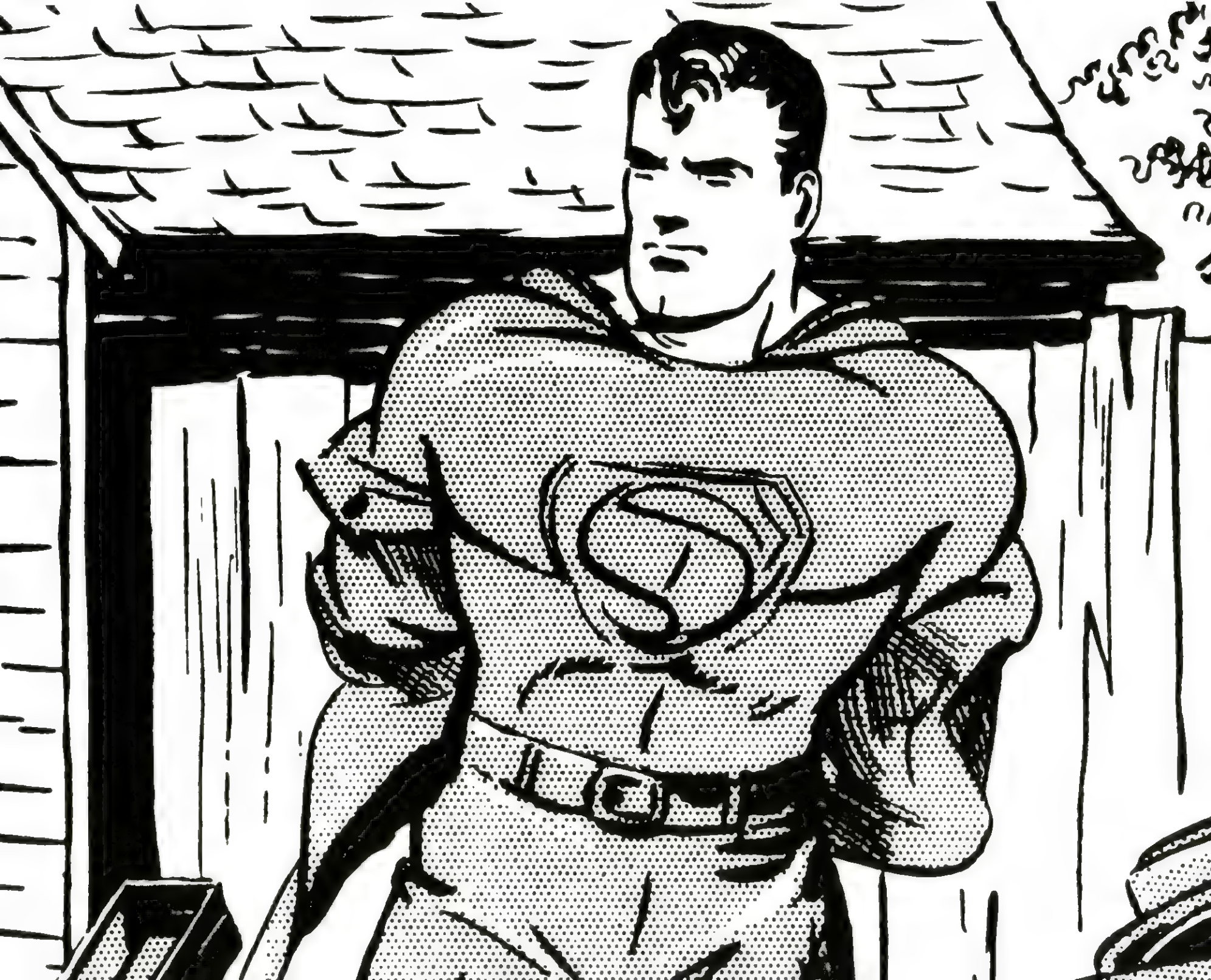
WHEN YOU'RE REALLY READY TO BEGIN SCRAPPING, JUST LET ME KNOW!



SUPERMAN®

THE DAILIES

VOLUME II: Strips 307-672, 1940-1941

Created by

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

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THE SUPERMAN BANDWAGON

James Vance

In 1940, it suddenly seemed that Superman was everywhere.

When introduced in *Action Comics* no. 1 just two years earlier, Jerry Siegel's and Joe Shuster's Man of Steel had been given the star treatment: a flashy cover and a lead-off spot longer than any other feature in that sixty-four-page anthology. In retrospect, it was a fitting debut for the property that would transform the shaky comic book business into a multimillion-dollar industry . . . but in 1938, the struggling Detective Comics, Inc., was naturally cautious with their new venture.

In a field that had managed to eke out a profit largely by imitating the conventions established in newspaper strips and pulp magazines, rolling out the red carpet for such a bizarre headliner was also a nervy roll of the dice. One can imagine publisher Harry Donenfeld's flop sweat when he contemplated that first issue, with its image of a caped man swinging a big green sedan over his head; who would lay out a Depression dime for anything so preposterous?

It isn't surprising that Donenfeld and editor Vincent Sullivan chose to hedge their bets. Following that initial appearance, Superman was replaced as a cover feature by commercially safer pulp-influenced images like big-game hunters and South Seas adventurers until sales figures began to indicate what a bonanza they had in that guy with a cape. Nothing quite like him had ever been seen before, certainly not by the youthful readers who bought comic books, and it quickly became clear that they were willing to lay out as many dimes as it took to see more. With that confirmation that Superman was indeed the success Donenfeld

and Sullivan had hoped for, he became a permanent feature on the covers—a move that was soon rewarded with sales figures that were steadily moving past the half-million mark.

In less than a year, a quarterly Superman comic book had been added to the schedule, and the man from Krypton was starring in a nationally syndicated newspaper strip. By the time the strips in this volume appeared, Superman had only been before the public for a couple of years—but in that short time, thousands of kids had become devoted fans . . . and even in the homes (where there wasn't a dime to spare) where the daily strip had never been seen, the Man of Steel was about to become a permanent fixation for thousands more.

He arrived—through the air, of course—on February 12, 1940, courtesy of the Mutual Broadcasting System. The radio adventures of Superman were initially heard three times a week as a fifteen-minute sustaining program (i.e., one without a national sponsor). Because the show lacked national sponsorship, local radio stations in the Mutual network were free to accept or reject it—and only a portion of the stations picked it up; those local outlets were then free to sell the show's advertising time as they liked. It wasn't long before many of the regional businesses who became local sponsors for the show began to see a remarkable upsurge in sales. Soft drinks, sandwich spreads, dairy products—it didn't matter what the product was; so long as it was associated with Superman, his young listeners asked their parents to buy it.

In 1942, the Kellogg company signed on as exclusive nationwide sponsor for the radio series, initiating a relationship with the character that would last nearly twenty years and sell more than a few boxes of corn flakes—not to mention "that super-delicious cereal," Kellogg's Pep. The show, of course, benefited as

This page: Superman radio show advertisement suggesting to potential sponsors that they "Get on the Bandwagon." Previous page: Detail from color version of same advertisement.

DC Comics publisher Harry Donenfeld (left) with *Superman* radio show cast members Clayton "Bud" Collyer (Superman) and Joan Alexander (Lois Lane).

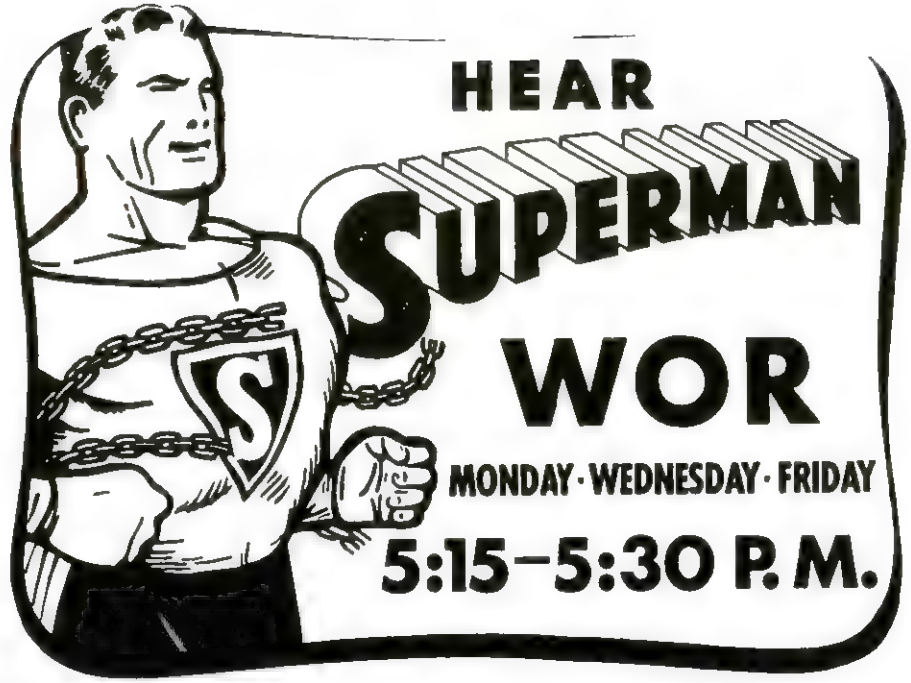
much as the sponsor; just months after the cereal manufacturer signed on, the program was promoted to a five-days-a-week schedule and carried, at last, over the entire Mutual network of 202 stations.

Sponsors across the country who'd gambled on the show's early episodes must have been amazed by the response, but it was no surprise to the two young men in Cleveland who'd started it all. As far back as 1936, Siegel's and Shuster's dreams for Superman had included merchandising. Rough sketches surviving from that period show them noodling with proposed box art and advertisements for Superman-endorsed athletic wear, exercise equipment, toys, Superman whole wheat crackers, and even movies and radio . . . youthful dreams that would turn out to have been remarkably prescient.

The first indication that Superman's appeal wasn't limited to the stories themselves came in 1939, when Detective Comics, Inc. announced the formation of Supermen of America, a fan club for "all red-blooded young Americans" with a devotion to strength, courage and justice (and, of course, ten cents in coin or stamps in their kick). The club itself was free; the dime was to cover the cost of mailing the membership kit, which included a certificate signed by Clark Kent, a four-color button, and a copy of "Superman's Secret Code" for translating encrypted messages which appeared in the various comic books that featured the big guy's adventures.

According to company publicity, a quarter of a million dimes flooded in during the show's first two years. Some of that response may have been stimulated by a 1940 essay contest (on "What I would do if I had the powers of Superman" in 100 words or less), in which club members had the chance to win prizes that included Supermen of America sweatshirts and rings. But kids continued to sign up well into the 1960s, proof positive that the Man of Steel didn't just have readers—he had fans, the kind willing to back up their enthusiasm with hard cash.

The comic book sales alone were impressive—by January 1940, *Action*'s domestic circulation had passed the one-million mark, and the print run of *Superman* had reached a million and a half copies. The newspaper strip was rapidly approaching



This 1941 advertisement for the Superman radio show promoted the fifteen-minute serial that ran three times a week. It was originally printed in black and white on cardboard.

a total client list of three hundred dailies and ninety Sundays . . . and with the advent of the radio show, it must have been clear to even the most conservative potential licensee that, as *Time* magazine had noted in late 1939, "*Superman* is rapidly becoming the No. 1 juvenile vogue in the U.S."

At the same time, more and more of the real world was also taking notice. By 1940, the manufacturers of children's products had begun to realize what Siegel and Shuster had known all along: that kids were eager to buy virtually anything that bore the Man of Steel's likeness. The flood of Superman merchandise had begun.

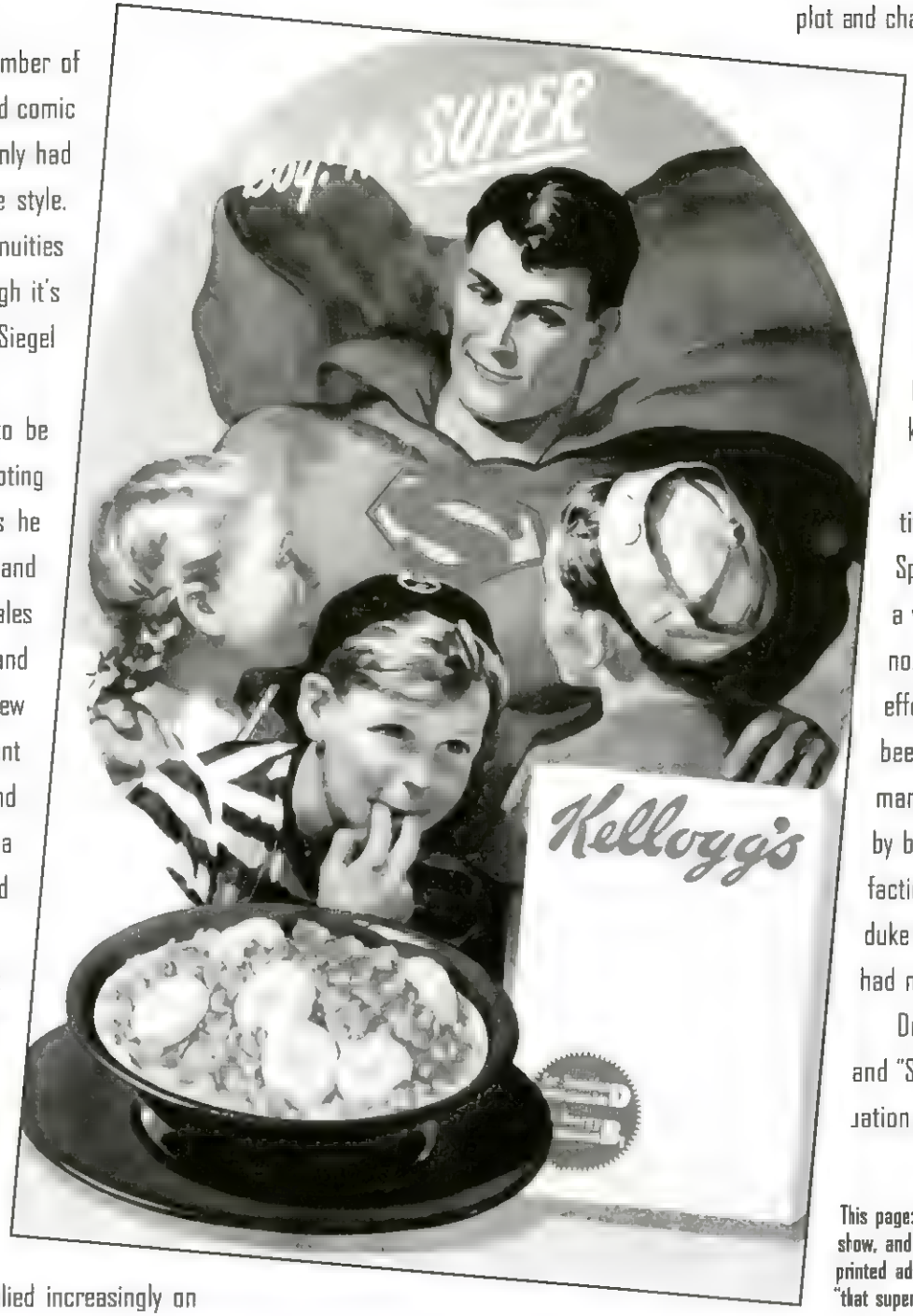
When the strips reprinted in this volume first appeared, the radio program was making its debut, and the earliest merchandise had just begun to trickle into stores. The newspaper feature itself was only twelve months old, and the young men who

produced it were still feeling their way.

Faced with creating the staggering number of finished drawings required by the strips and comic books, Joe Shuster and his assistants plainly had little time to maintain a consistent house style. One has the impression that several continuities were being drawn at the same time, though it's difficult to imagine even the prolific Siegel bearing up for long under such a strain.

As it was, the young writer seemed to be spending a fair amount of time scripting sequences that were variations on stories he had already written for the comic books, and even in the daily strip itself. Certainly, tales of kidnapped heiresses, evil slumlords, and warmongering dictators were nothing new to *Superman*—but despite the apparent familiarity of certain storylines, this second year of the daily strip demonstrated a marked improvement over much of what had come before.

Siegel's command of the daily format was growing more assured, and if he was recycling earlier themes, he was also exploring them with a greater sophistication. Under the guiding influence of DC editor Whitney Ellsworth, Siegel continued to shape *Superman* as an adventure strip for young readers, crafting stories that relied increasingly on plot and characterization. The Man of Steel continued crashing through walls and extracting information from hoods by tossing them into the air, but he also began to encounter problems that couldn't always be solved by such direct means. And, on specific instructions from Ellsworth, Superman adopted a moral code that prevented him from using his powers to kill anyone, even a villain.

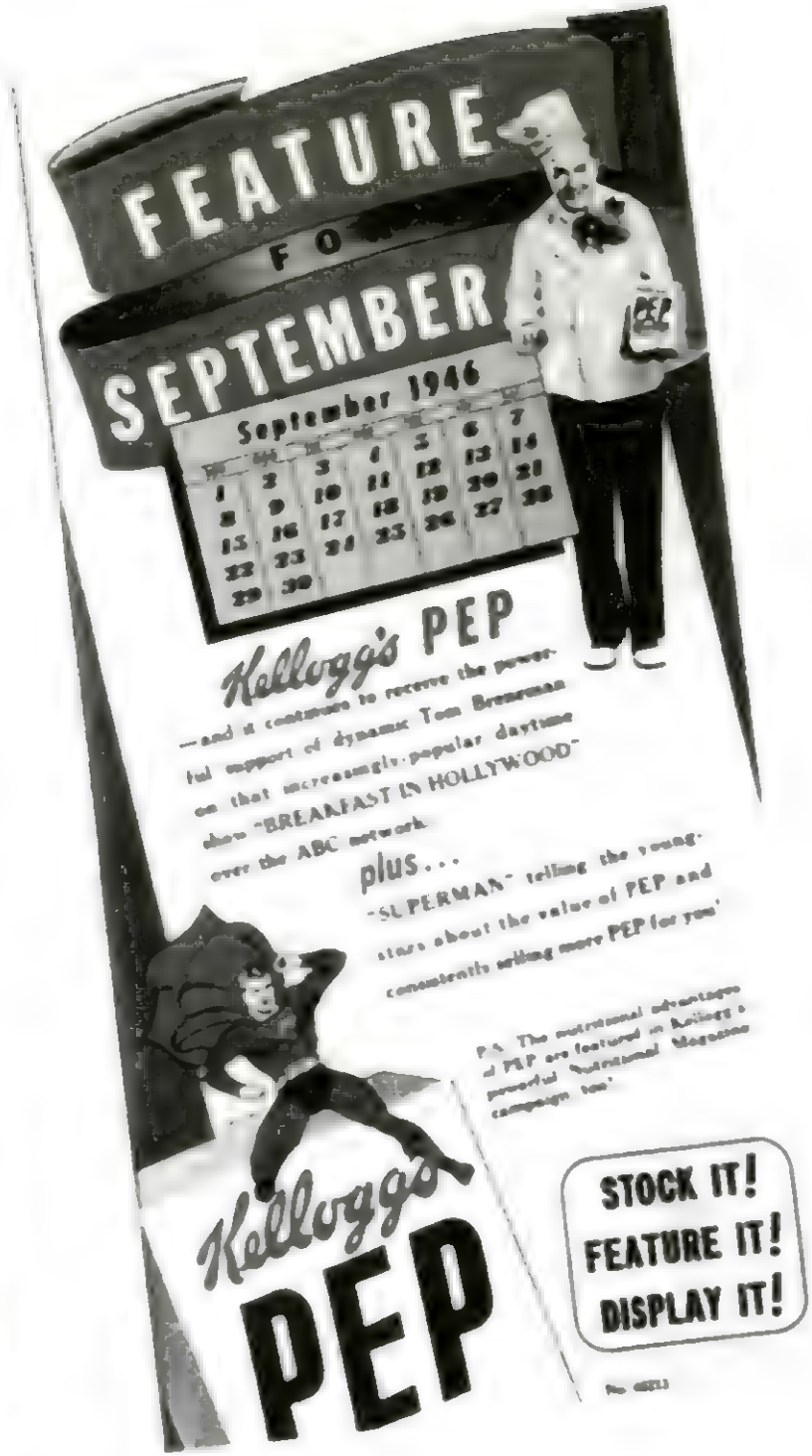


The opening sequences in this volume, titled for collection purposes "Clark Kent—Spy" and "Superman Goes to War," represent a variation on the story from *Action Comics* no. 2. The original story involved Superman's efforts to stop a European war that had been whipped up by a greedy munitions manufacturer. Superman resolved the conflict by bringing the commanders of the opposing factions face to face and ordering them to duke it out . . . whereupon, realizing that they had no personal quarrel, they end hostilities.

During the two years separating that story and "Superman Goes to War," the European situation had become a lot grimmer. Published the

This page: The Kellogg Company sponsored the Superman radio show, and the Man of Steel appeared in many of the company's printed ads. Next page: Superman calendar blotters advertising "that super-delicious cereal" Kellogg's Pep.

FEATURE FOR
march · 1946
Kellogg's
PEP
WHOLE WHEAT FLAKES
WITH SUPER ADVERTISING BEHIND IT
STOCK IT! · FEATURE IT! · DISPLAY IT!


FEATURE
FOR
SEPTEMBER
September 1946
Kellogg's PEP
—and it continues to receive the powerful support of dynamic Tom Breneman on that increasingly-popular daytime show "BREAKFAST IN HOLLYWOOD" over the ABC network.
plus...
"SUPERMAN" telling the young-sters about the value of PEP and consistently selling more PEP for you!
P.S. The nutritional advantages of PEP are featured in Kellogg's powerful "Nutritional Magazine" campaign too!
Kellogg's
PEP
STOCK IT!
FEATURE IT!
DISPLAY IT!

same year as the Hitler-Stalin fantasy that appeared in *Look*, this sequence ends with Superman capturing the warring dictators (one of whom, Amork, is clearly modeled on Hitler) and again forcing them to fight it out in person. This time, though, the despots give it a shot, and make themselves look so ridiculous in the process that the troops on both sides throw down their arms and refuse to shed blood for such obvious bozos.

In *Action Comics* no. 8, published the previous year, Superman had literally attacked the problem of slum conditions by destroying a run-down neighborhood in hopes of compelling the government to build decent, affordable housing for the poor. Called in to halt his rampage, the National Guard opened up on him with guns and bombs, but only succeeded in destroying the rest of the neighborhood, leaving the Man of Steel unharmed while finishing the wrecking job he'd started.

When Siegel returned to the theme in the present volume's "Trouble in the Tenements" sequence, he was no longer content to let the big guy's biceps do all the talking. Though his costumed alter ego has plenty to do, it's Clark Kent who takes center stage in this story of social reform, conducting a one-man media blitz and finally traveling to Washington to lobby for new housing to replace the crumbling, crime-ridden Metropolis slums. Still chockablock with melodrama and violence (at one point, Kent hurls a carload of hoods to their death; later, it's implied that Superman has killed the pilot of an attacking fighter plane), the story is nonetheless a step up in dramatic terms from earlier efforts.

Those who keep track of such things may note that while Perry White had the dyspepsia concession at the *Daily Planet* on radio, his predecessor George Taylor was still keeping the presses running in the 1940 daily strips. And archenemy Luthor, who debuted in *Action Comics* earlier that year as a malevolent redhead, makes his first appearance as the bald genius of crime.

It had been a phenomenally good year for Siegel and Shuster, the year in which many of the dreams they'd shared had finally come true. It may, in fact, have been their golden year—a time of vindication after years of struggle, when the world was climbing aboard the Superman Bandwagon, and everything wonderful was within their grasp.

SUPERMEN of AMERICA

STRENGTH COURAGE JUSTICE

HEADQUARTERS c/o ACTION COMICS
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Dear Member:

CONGRATULATIONS!

You have duly been elected a MEMBER of this great organization and we take great pleasure in sending to you the enclosed Certificate of Membership, the Superman Secret Code and the Superman Button.

We hope you will be as pleased with them as the thousands of other members who have just joined this great new organization.

Now that you are a fully accredited member, be sure to enter the BIG SUPERMAN CONTEST – 2,000 PRIZES given away. Entries must be in by midnight January 28, 1940. See details in ACTION COMICS – on sale at your local newsstands.

Inasmuch as we want to make the SUPERMEN OF AMERICA the biggest as well as the greatest organization of its kind, we would appreciate your urging your friends to become Members, too! There is a membership application in each issue of ACTION COMICS!

CK:MN

Very truly yours,
SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

P.S. The publishers of ACTION COMICS also publish five other swell monthly comic magazines! They are: DETECTIVE COMICS, ADVENTURE COMICS, MORE FUN COMICS, FLASH COMICS, and ALL AMERICAN COMICS, as well as SUPERMAN Quarterly. Look them over – you'll like them!

A congratulatory letter was sent to al new Supermen of America club members as part of a welcoming kit that also included a membership button, a membership certificate (signed by Clark Kent), and Superman's secret code.

AJAX
NEWS
GENCY
EPISODE ELEVEN
CLARK KENT-SPY

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Kent Disappears

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A Rendezvous

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Assassin!

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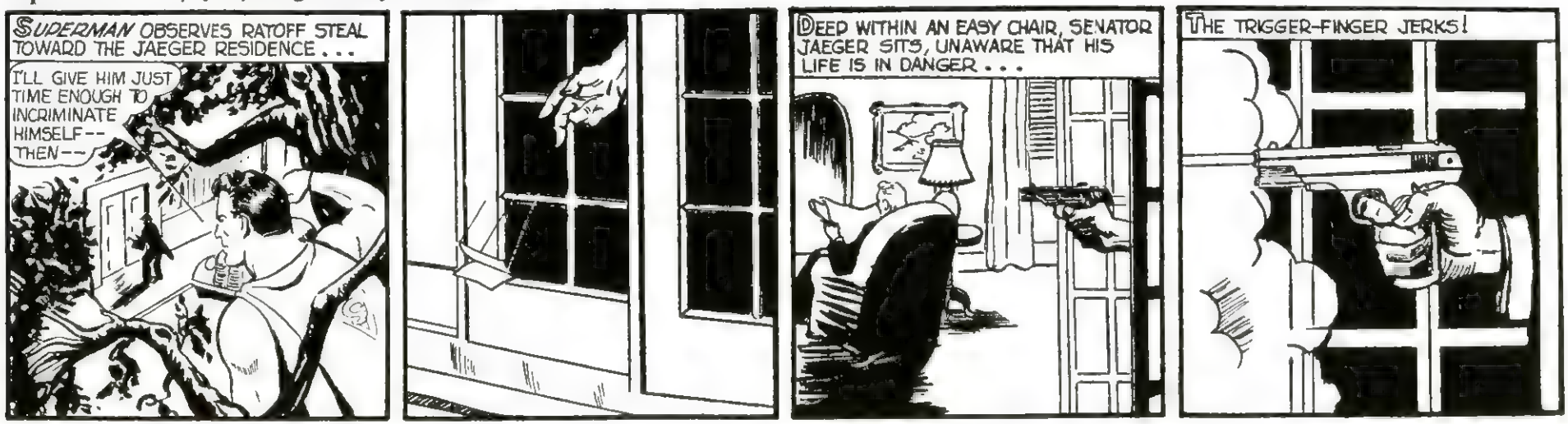
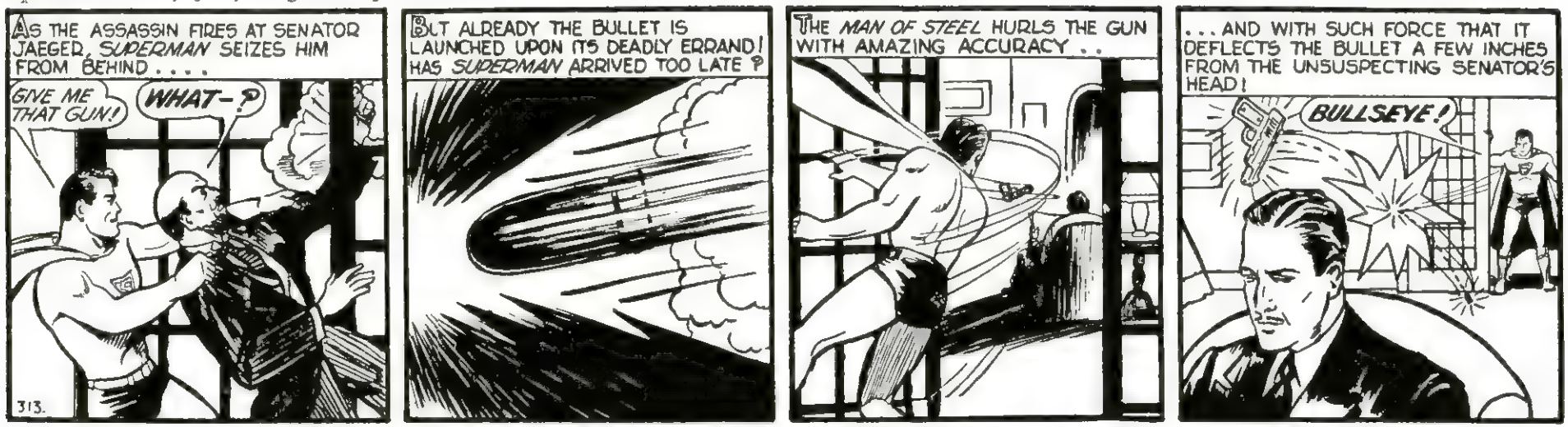


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *He Won't Talk.* (Copyright, 1940.)

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

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Applause!

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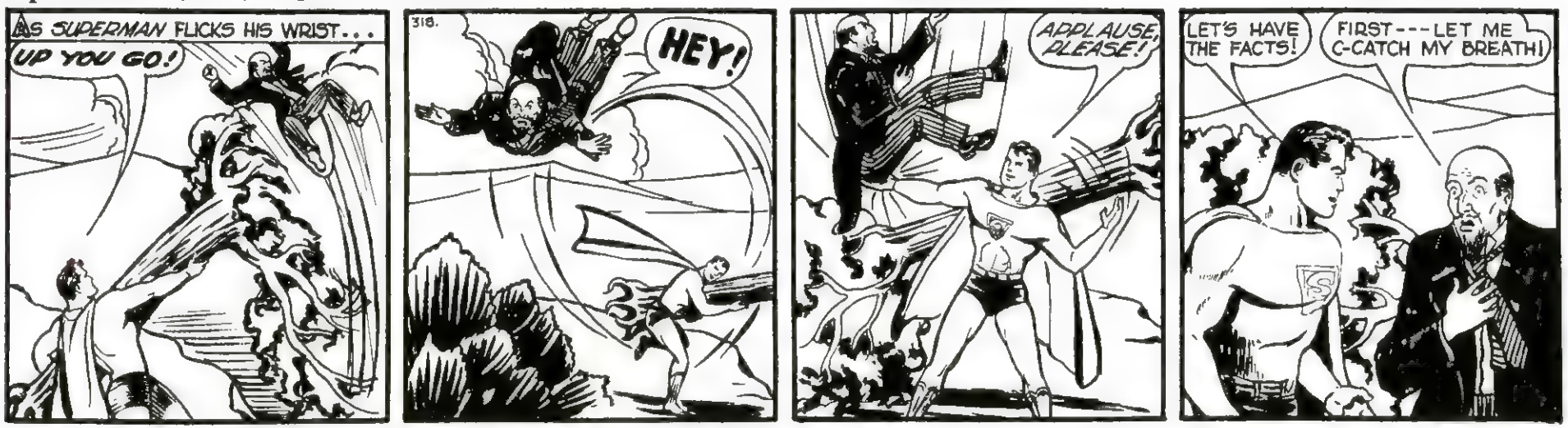

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Turn-About

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Clark Gets His Chance

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Clark Gets Involved

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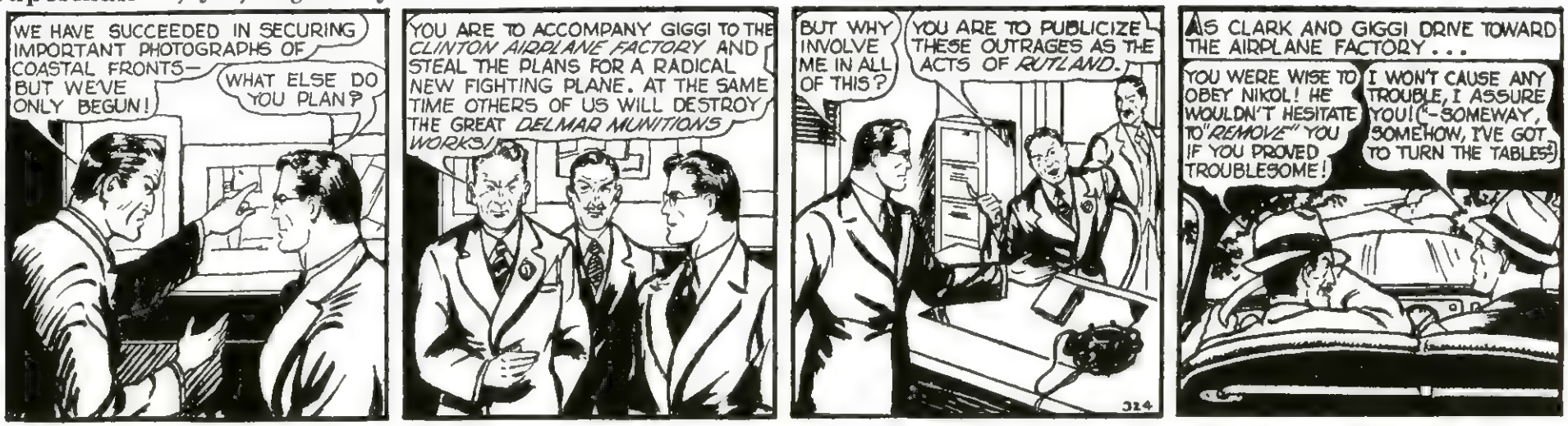

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Inside the Plane.* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Flagpole Sitter* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Giggi Apprehended.

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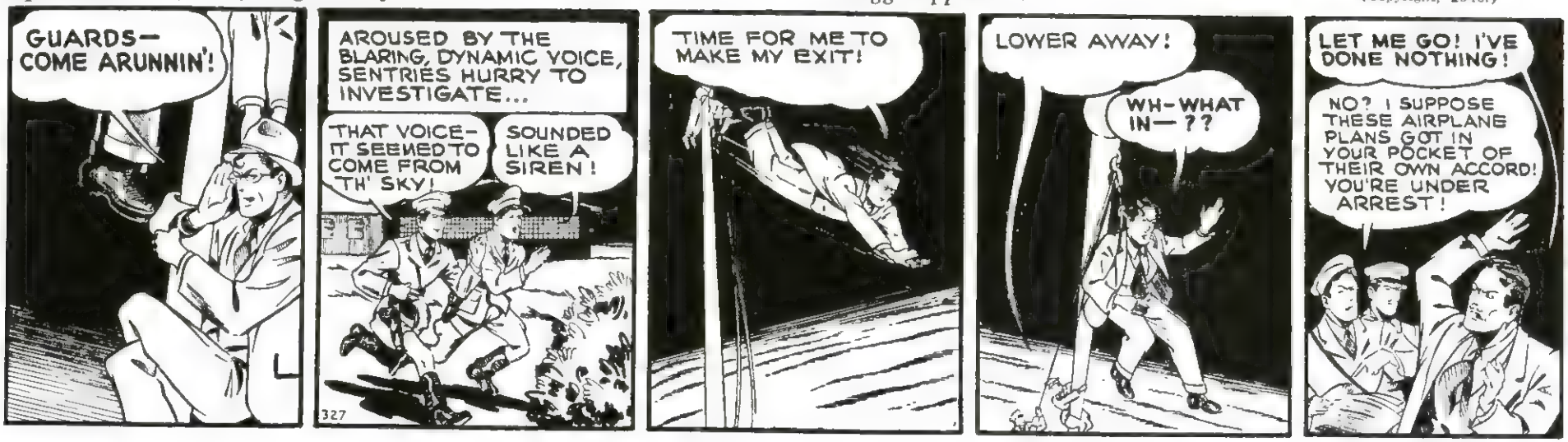
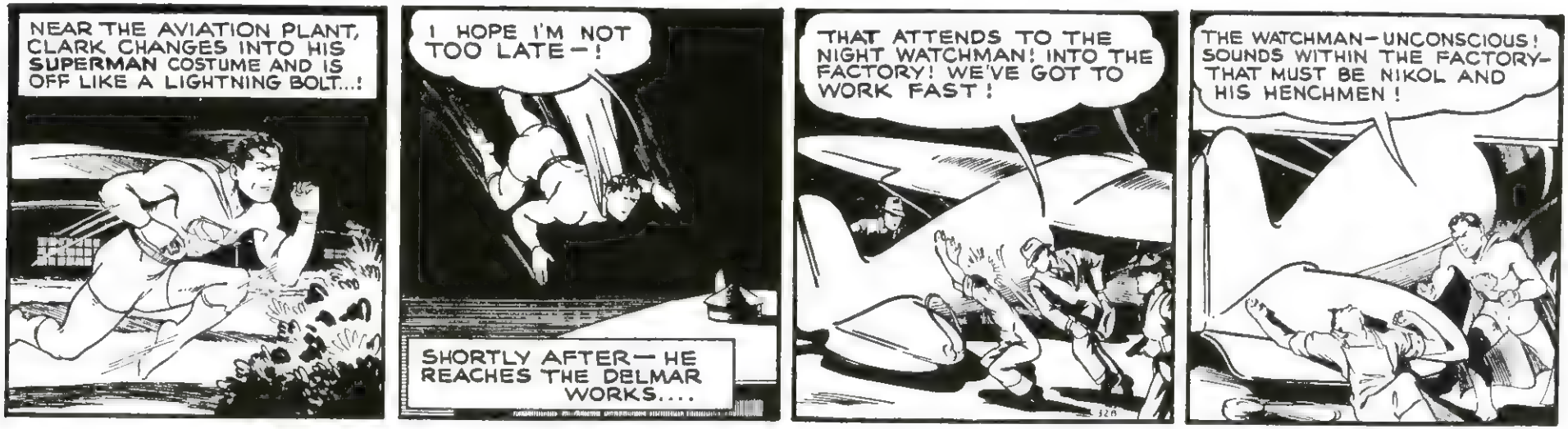


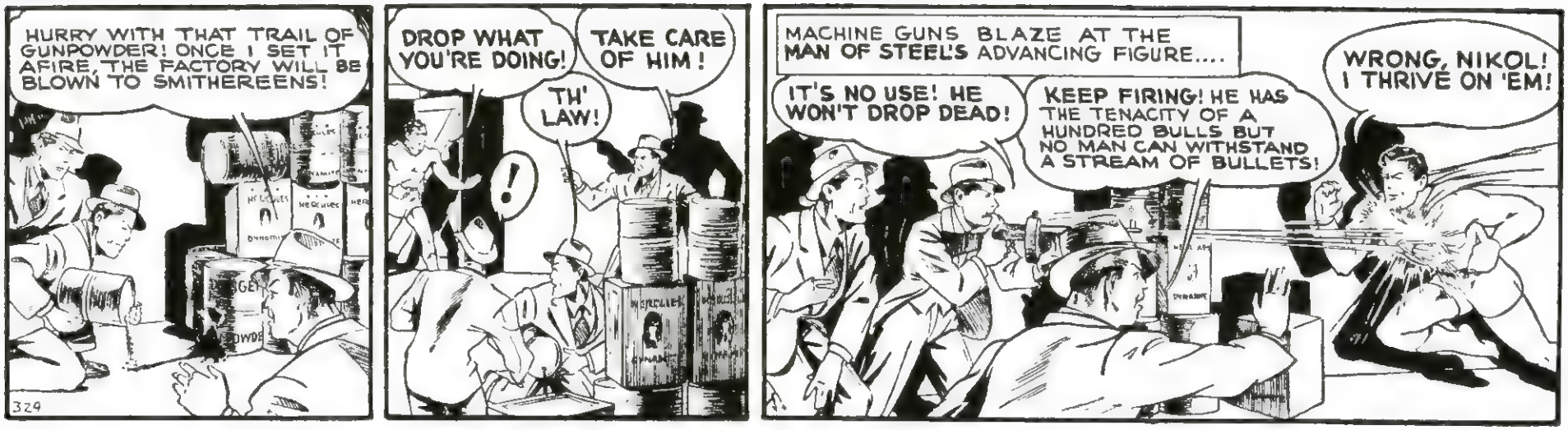
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hot on the Trail

(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Over the Top!* (Copyright, 1940.)



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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Step on It, Superman!

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The Birds Have Flown!

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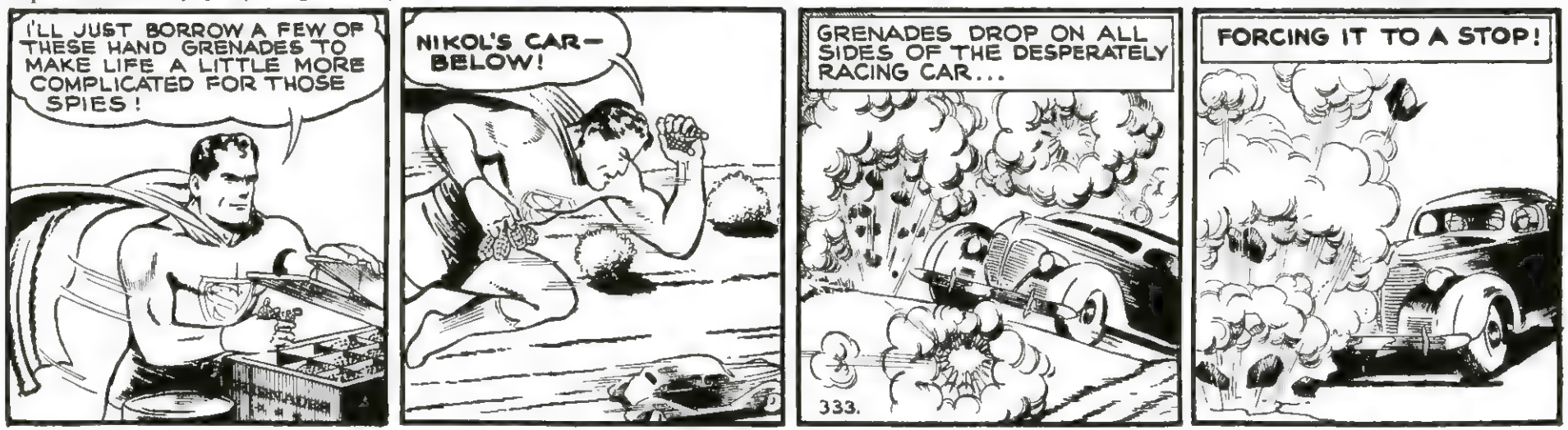
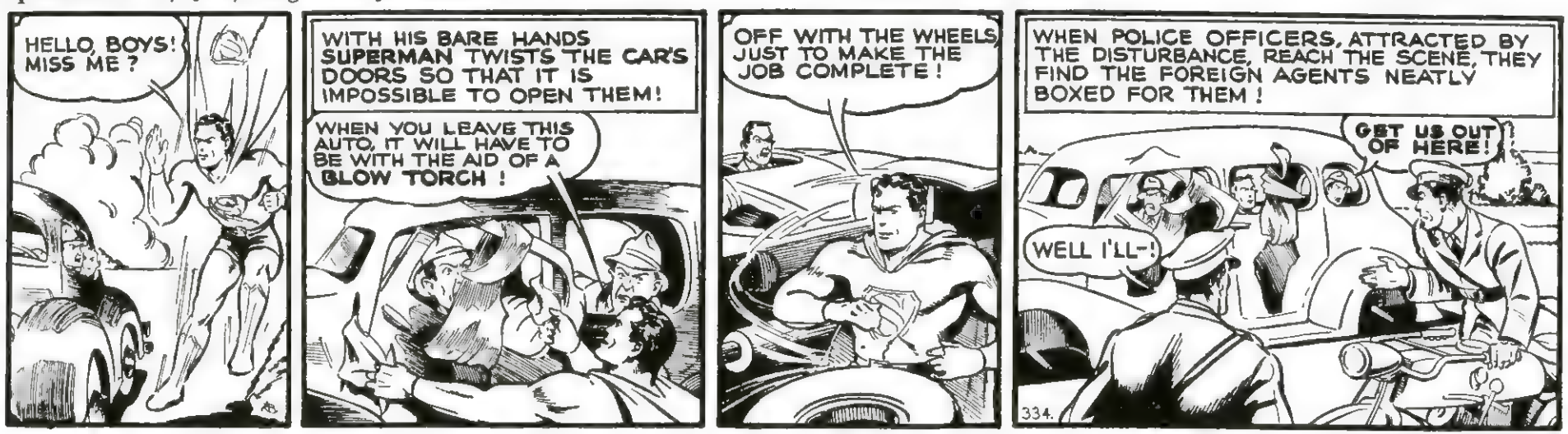
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Bombardment From the Skies.* (Copyright, 1940.)

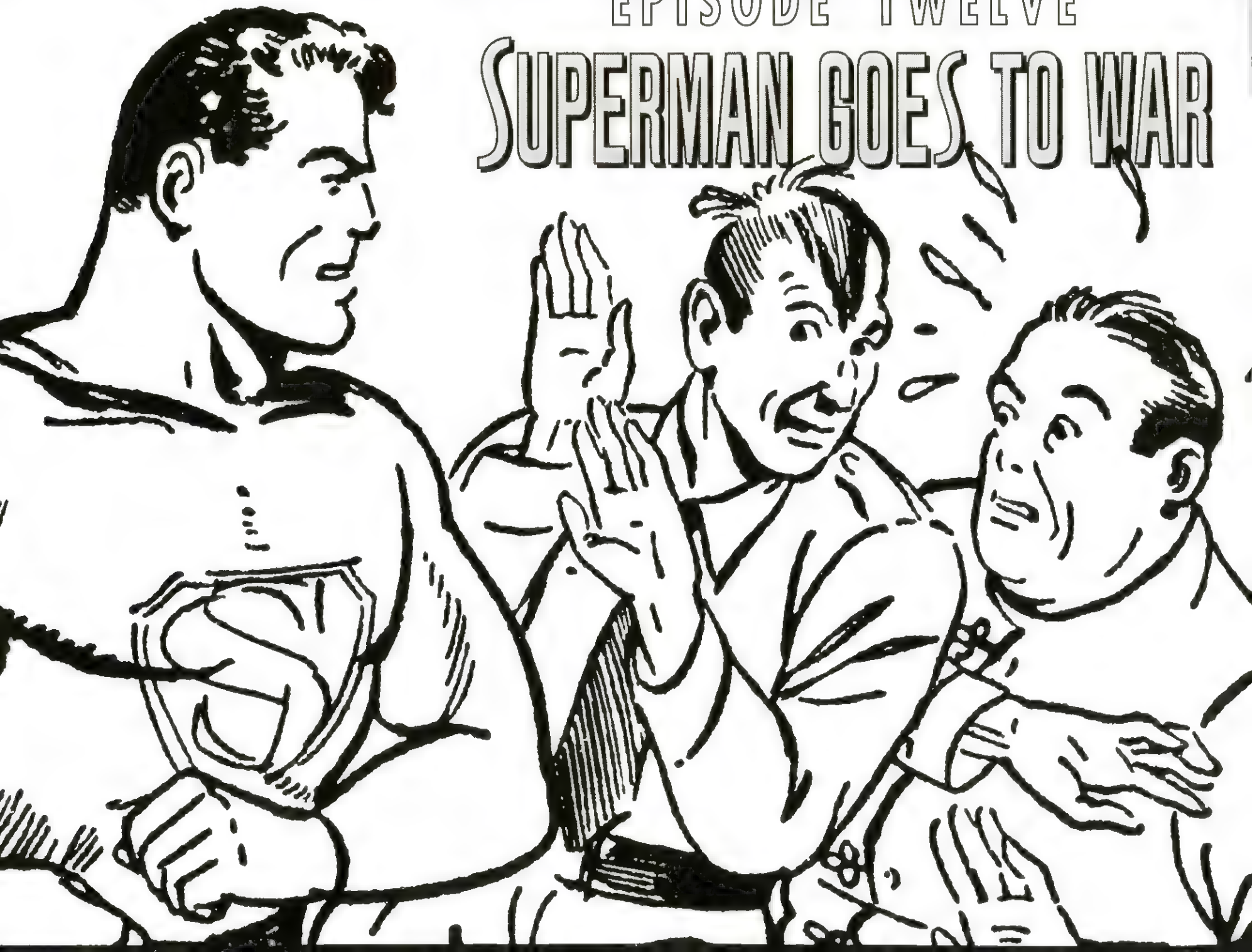


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *A Present For the Police* (Copyright, 1940.)

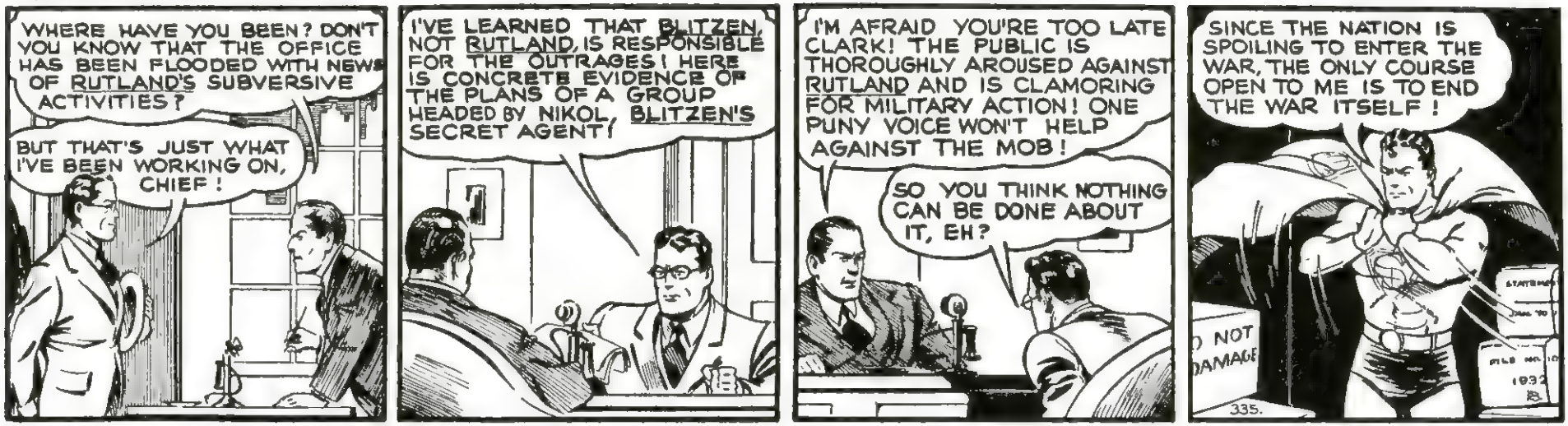


EPISODE TWELVE

SUPERMAN GOES TO WAR



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Off to the Wars* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Superman Takes a Trip* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Fancy Meeting You Here!

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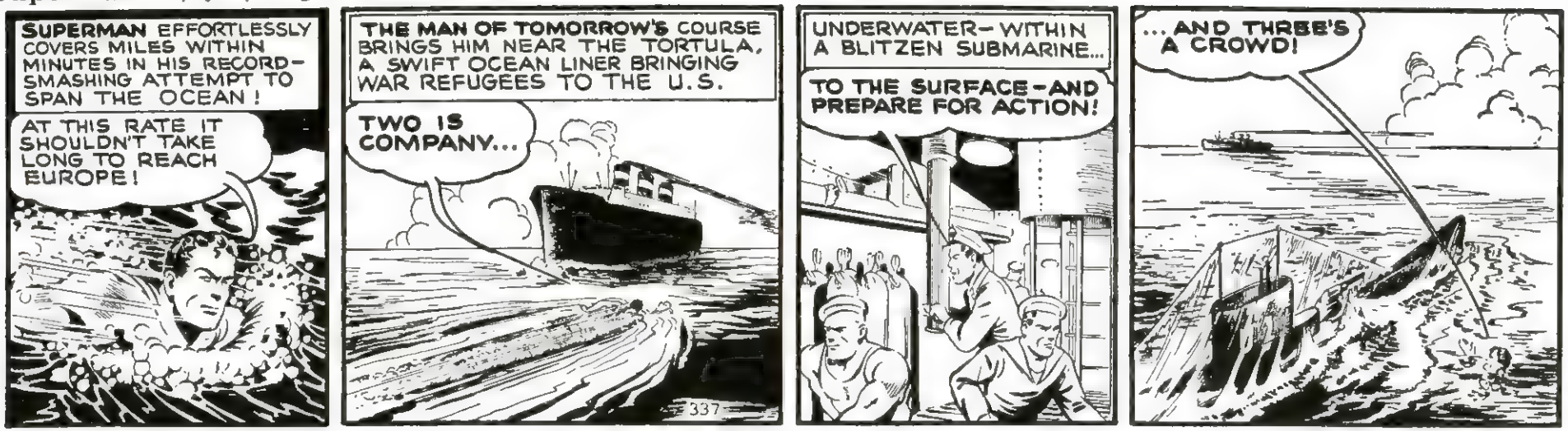
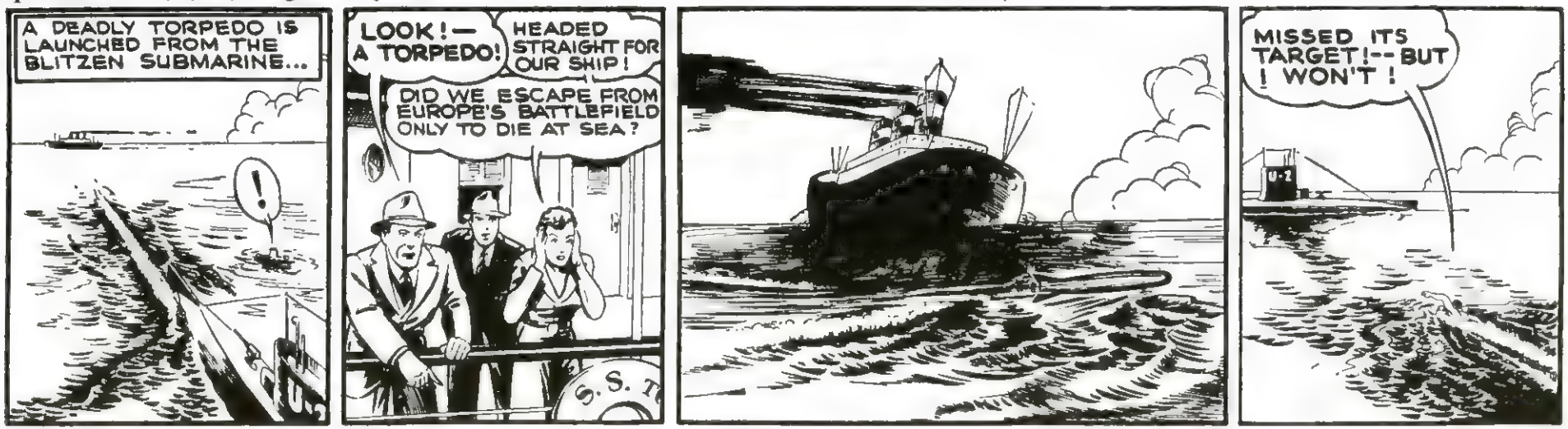


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

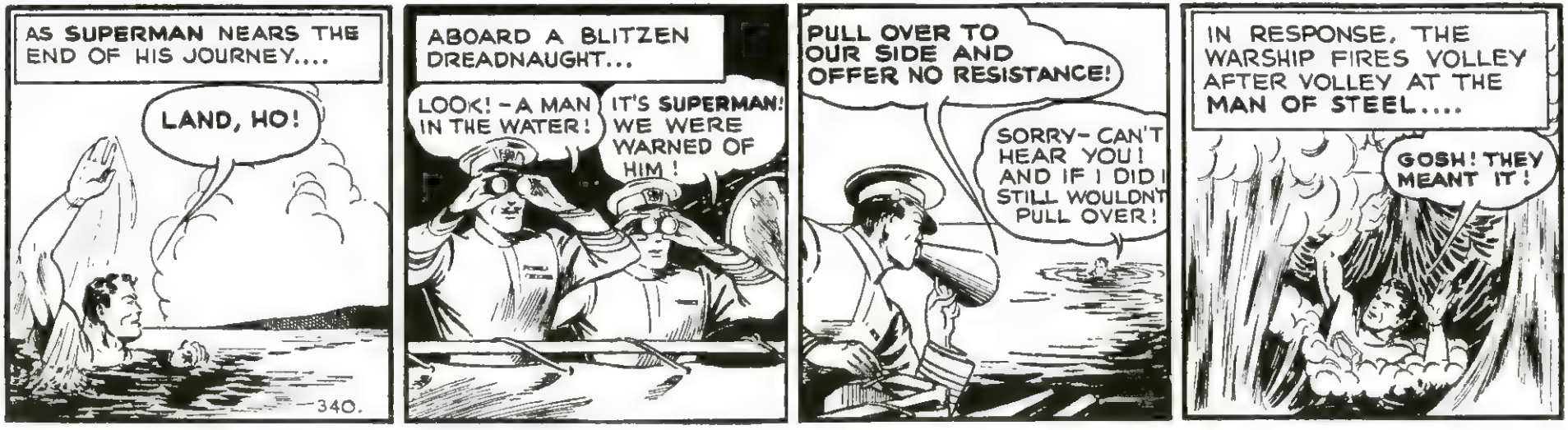
No Bullseye

(Copyright, 1940.)

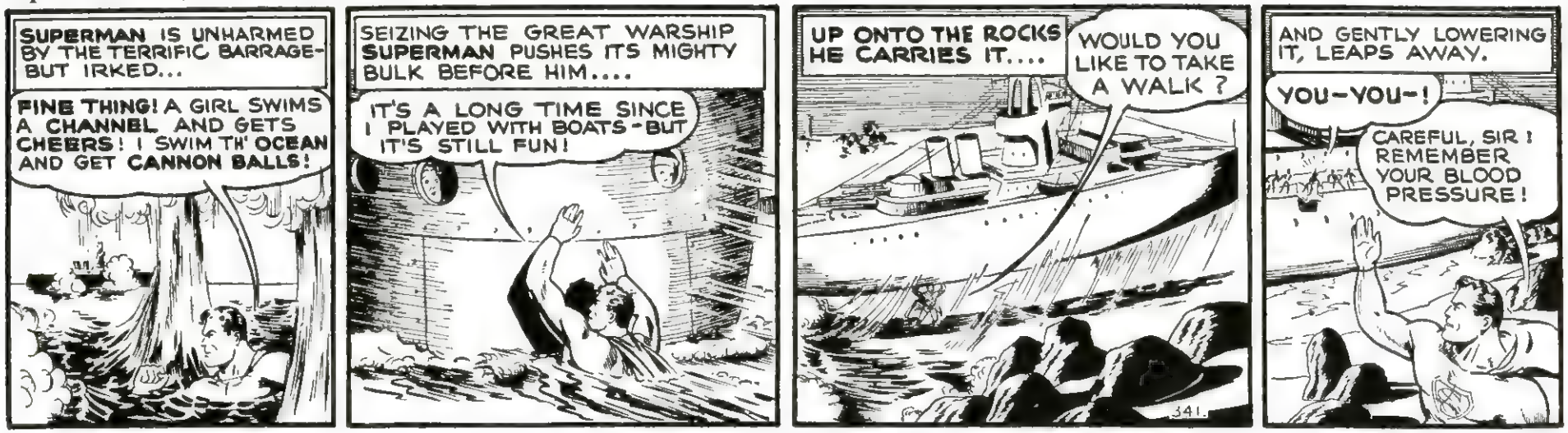


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *One Good Deed a Day* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *They're Not Foolin'* (Copyright, 1940.)

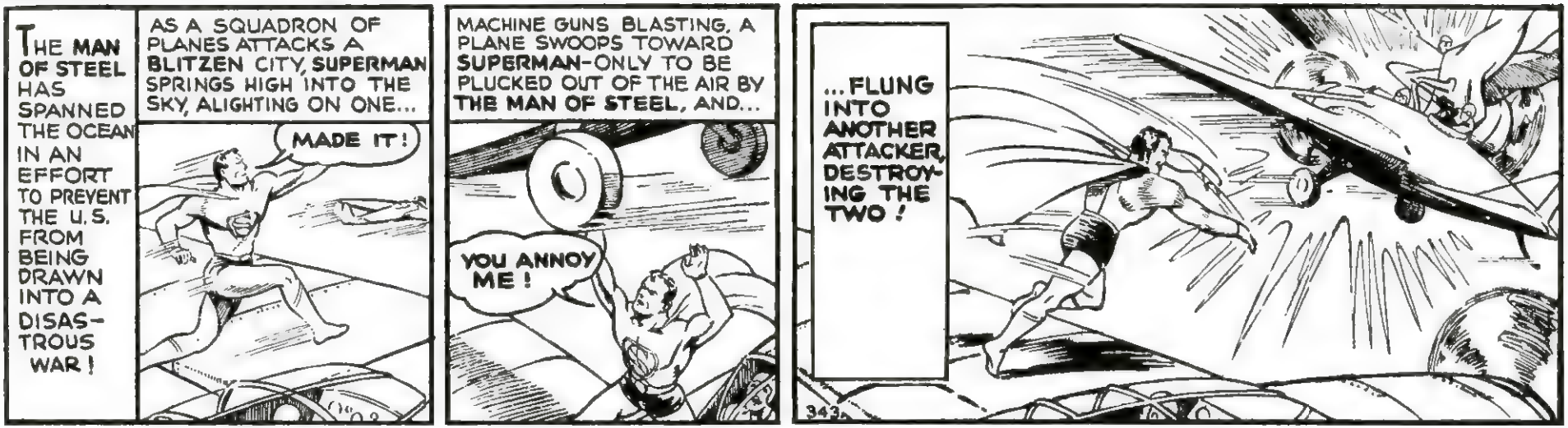


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Taken for a Ride* (Copyright, 1940)



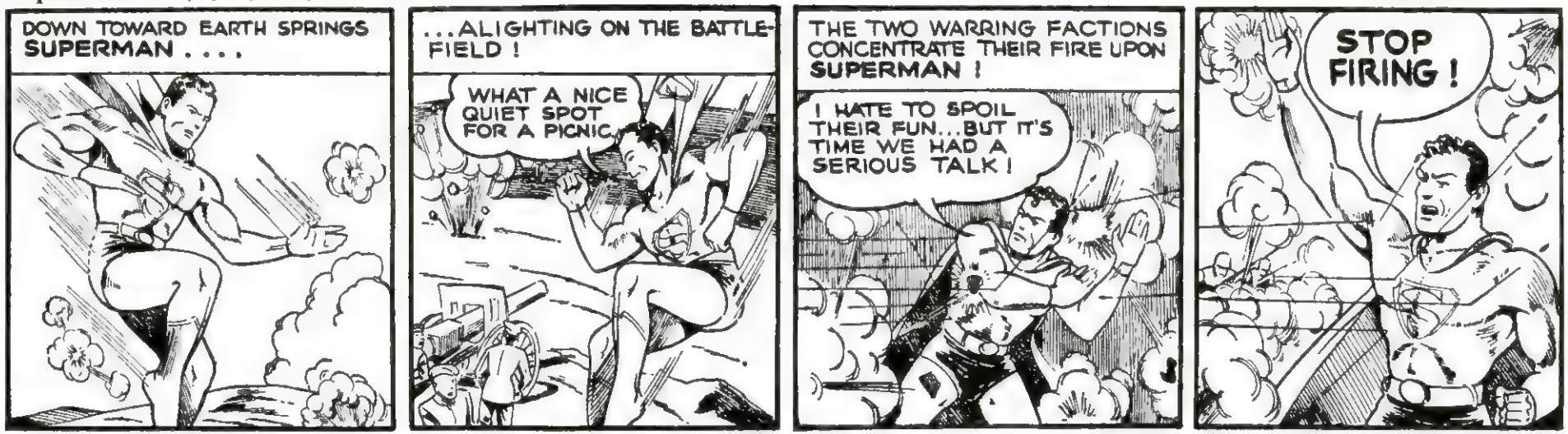
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Air Raid* (Copyright, 1940)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *A Clean Hit!* (Copyright, 1940.)

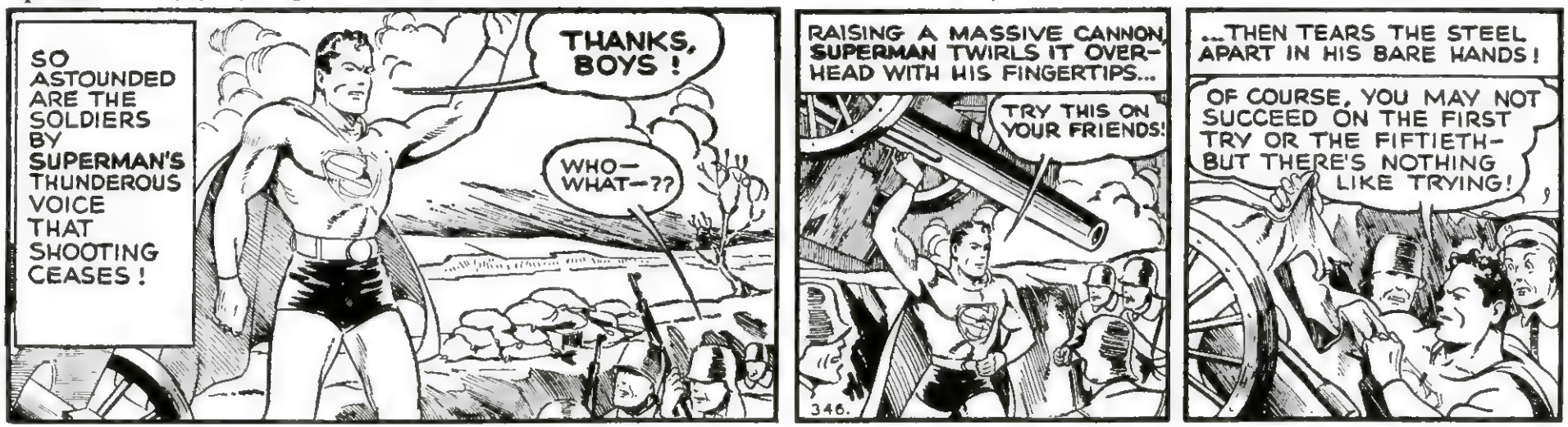


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Disarmed!* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Cease Fire!* (Copyright, 1940.)

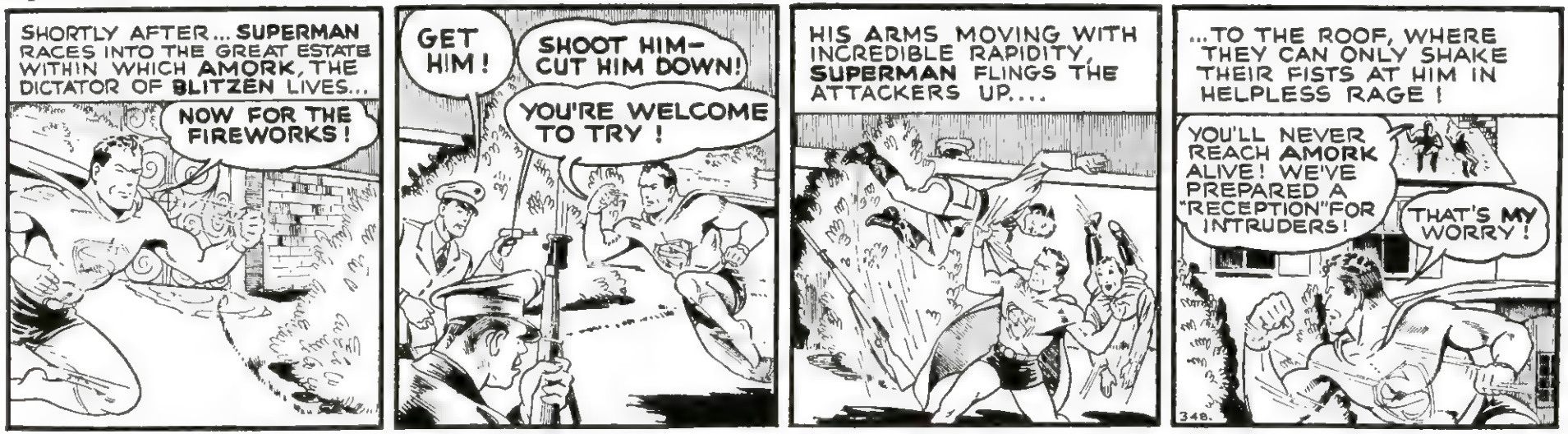


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Thanks, Boys!* (Copyright, 1940.)

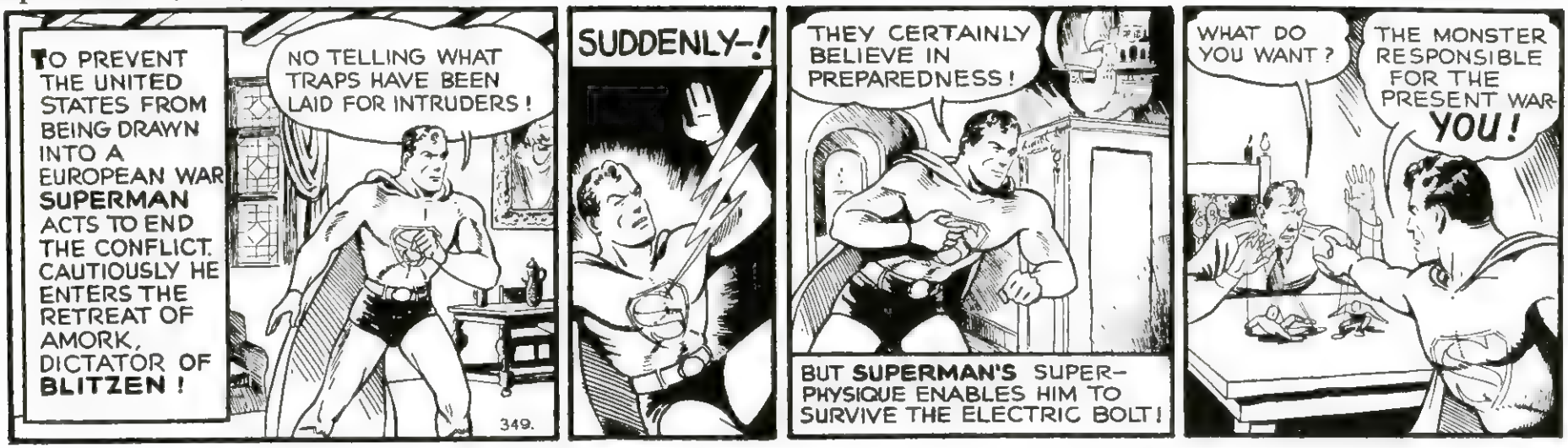


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *The Power of Words.* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *In Enemy Territory* (Copyright, 1940.)

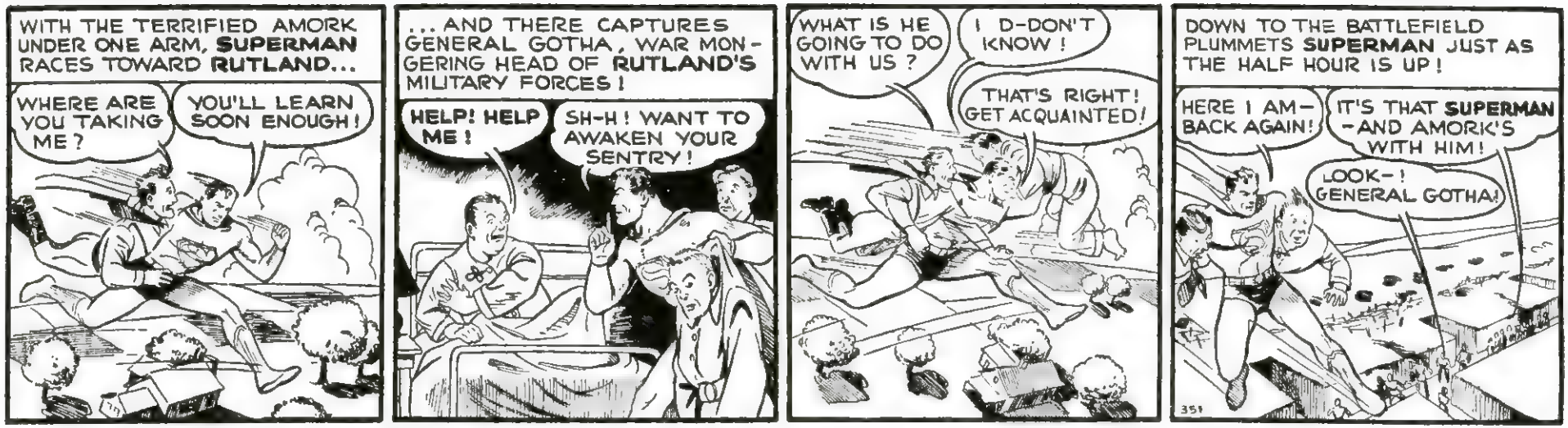


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Face to Face* (Copyright, 1940)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Amork Pinned Down!* (Copyright, 1940)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *A Quick Trip* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Sham Battle* (Copyright, 1940.)

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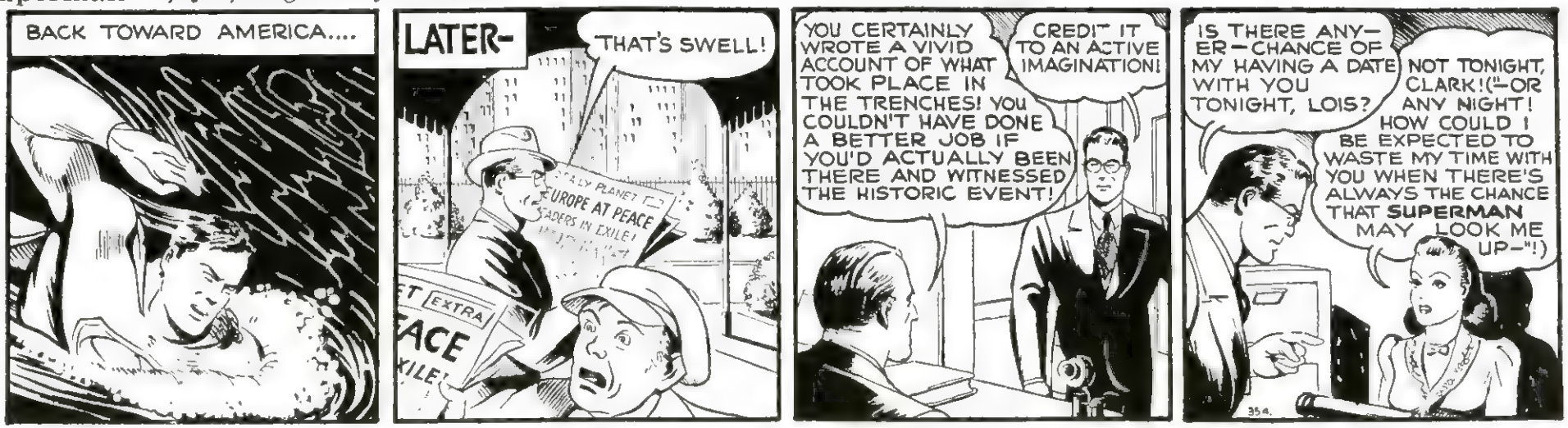
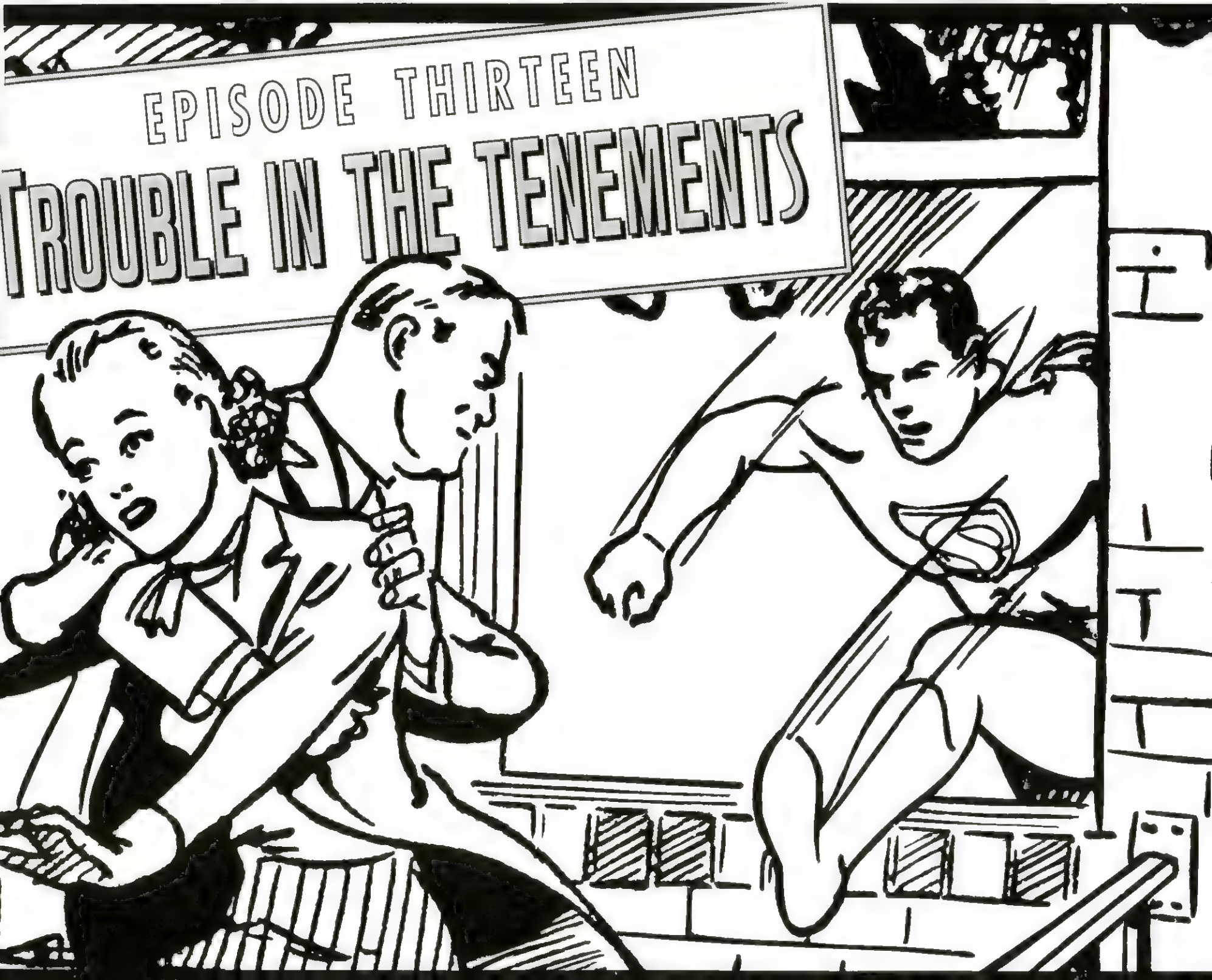
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *No Hit With Lois* (Copyright, 1940.)




EPISODE THIRTEEN
TROUBLE IN THE TENEMENTS

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Paging Superman

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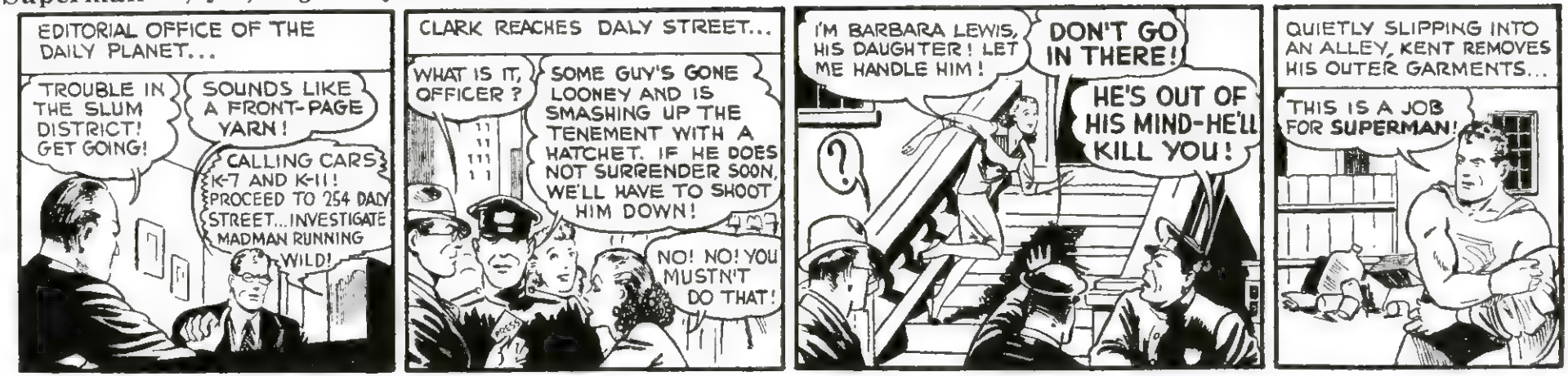
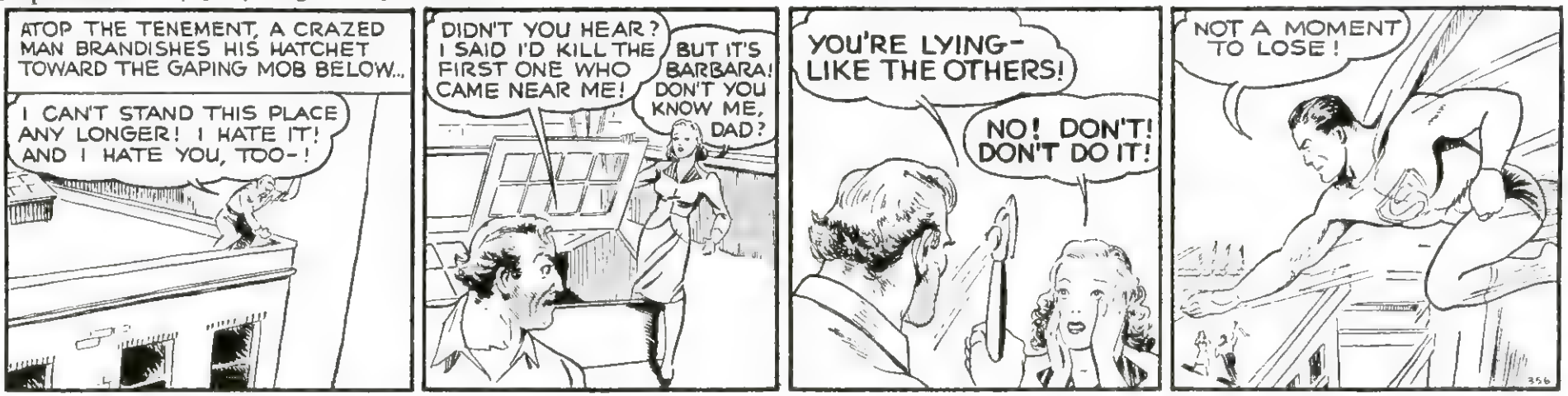


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Seconds Count!

(Copyright, 1940.)



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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

He's Off Again!

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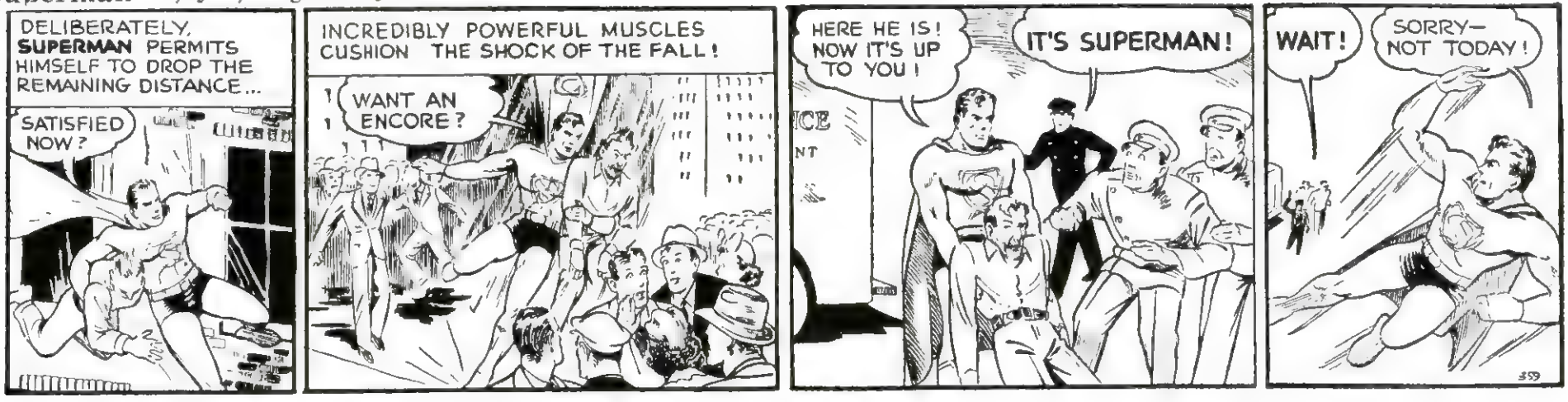

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Enter Barbara Lewis

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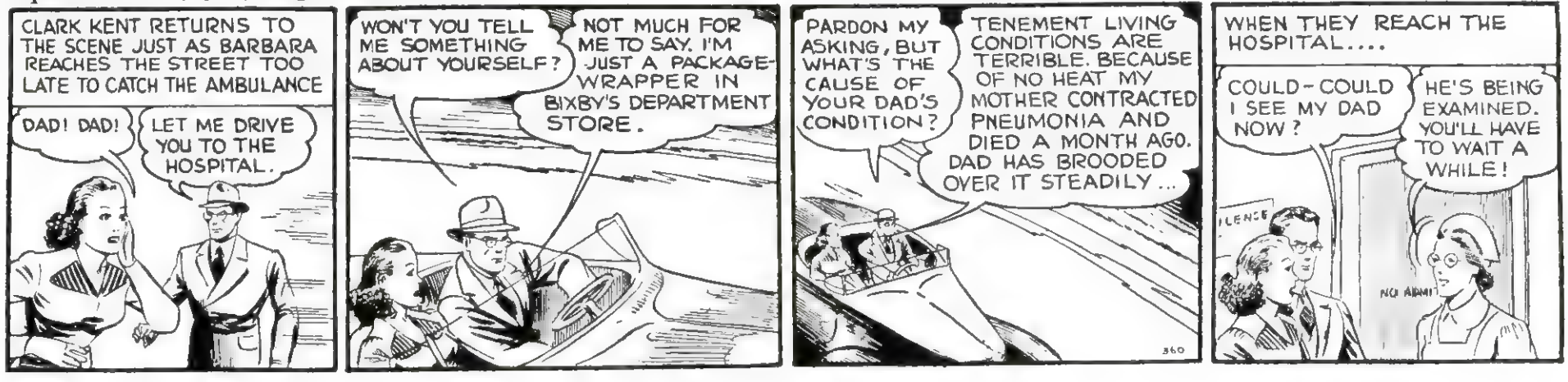
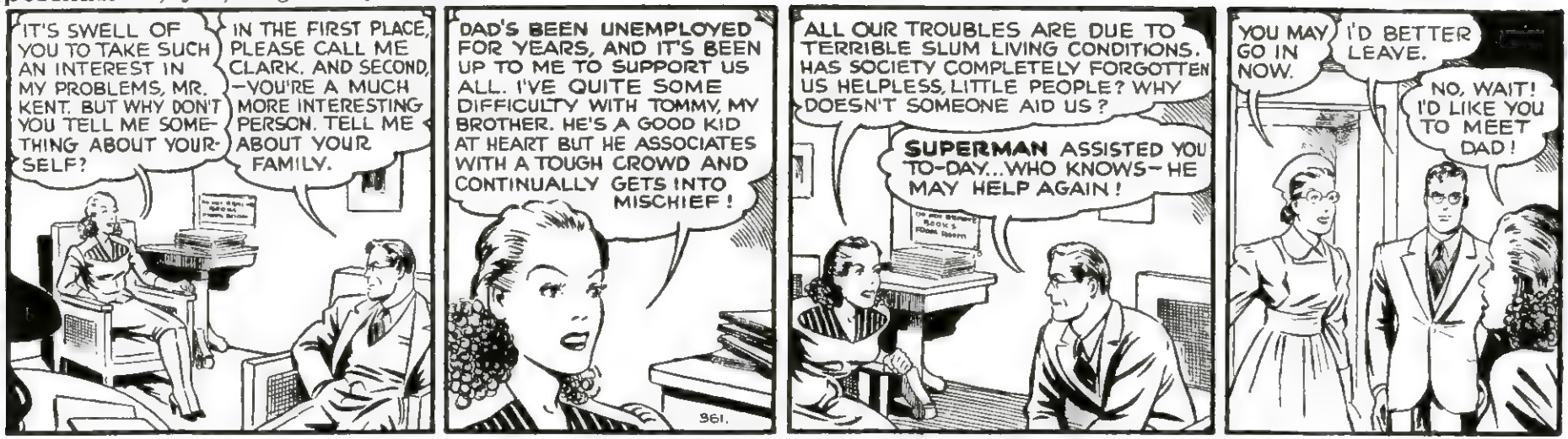
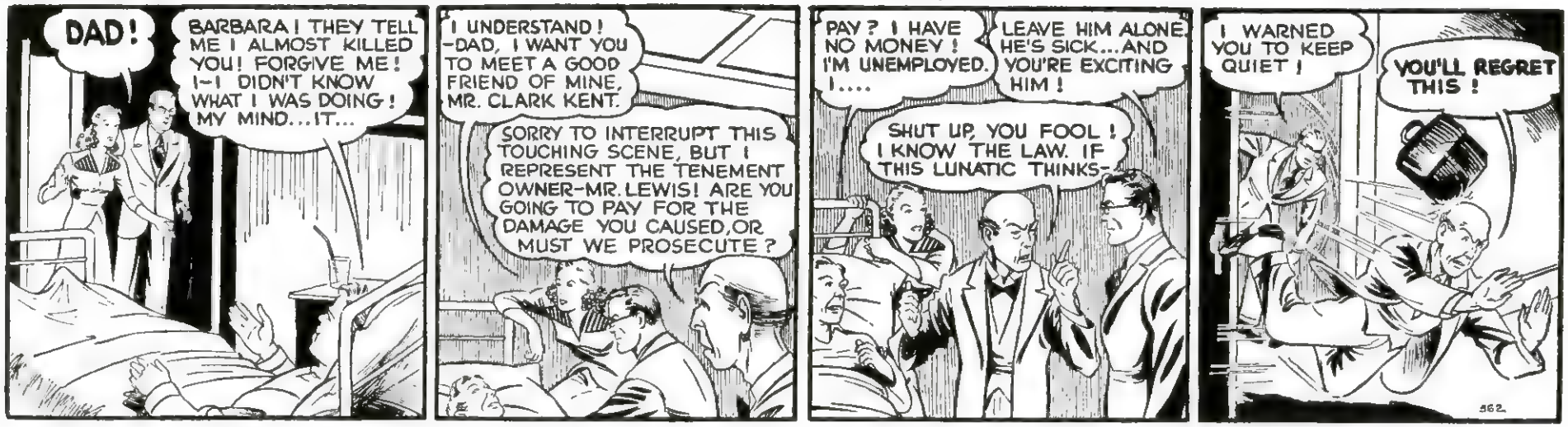


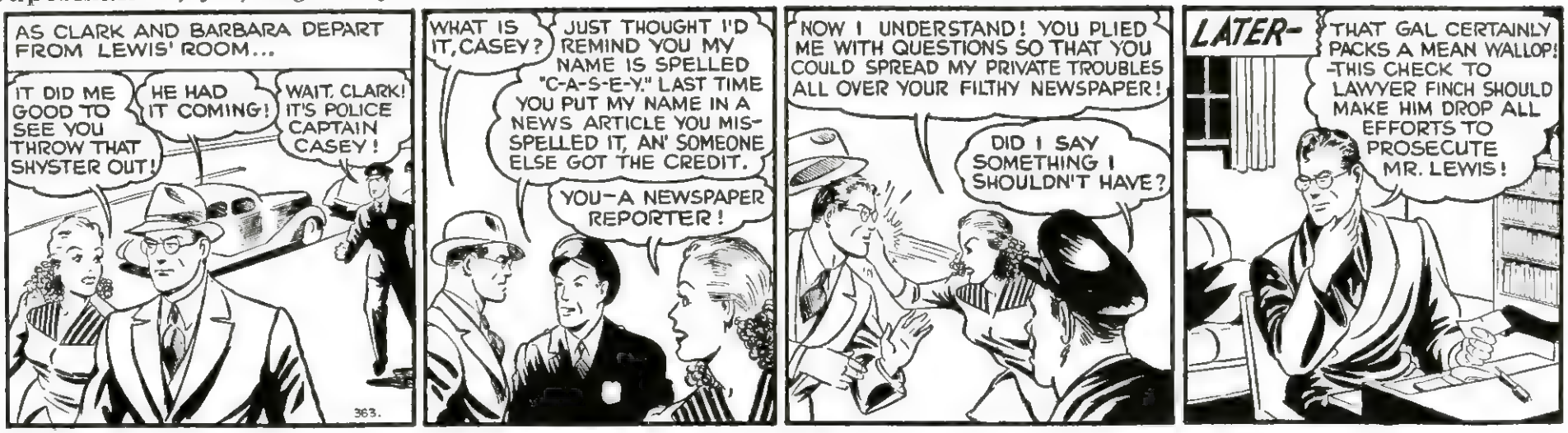
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *The Forgotten Man* (Copyright, 1940.)



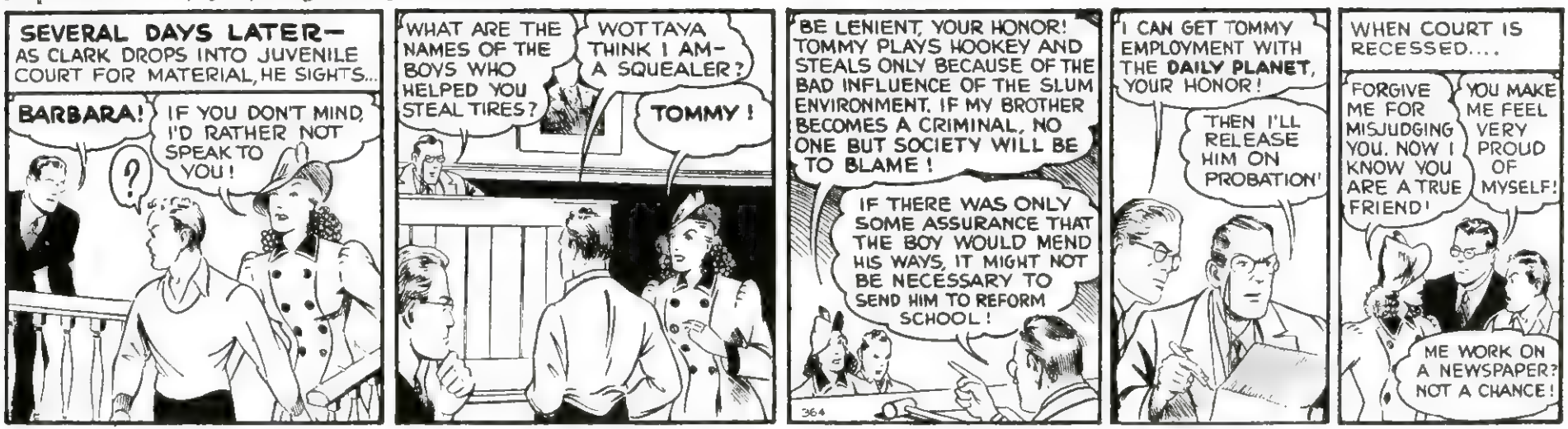
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *A Hasty Exit!* (Copyright, 1940.)



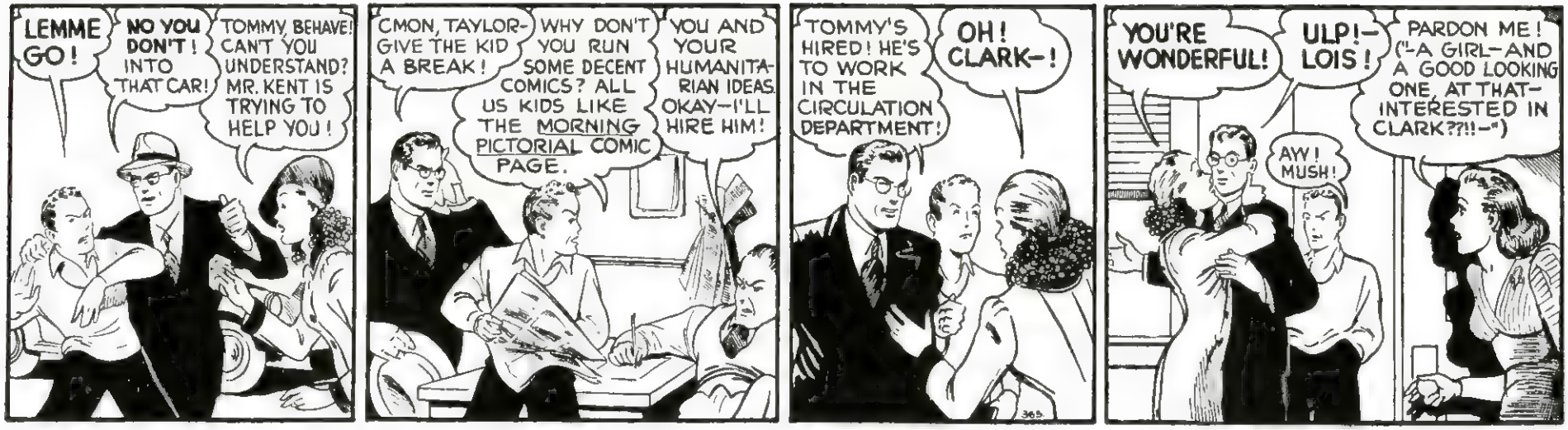
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster — *Casey Spills the Beans* — (Copyright, 1940.)



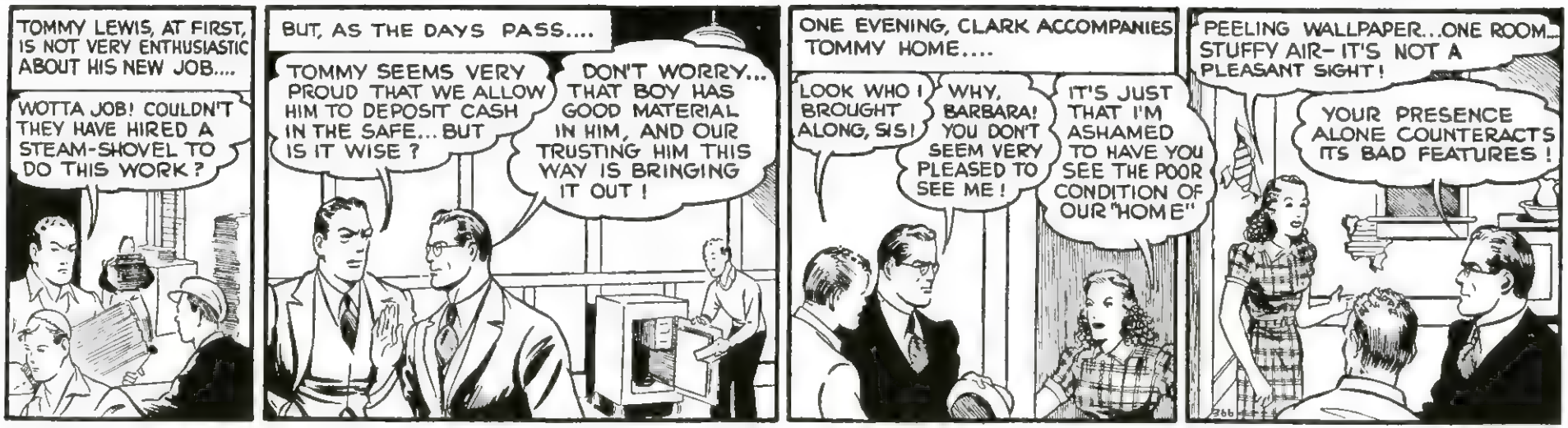
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster — *Problem Child* — (Copyright, 1940.)



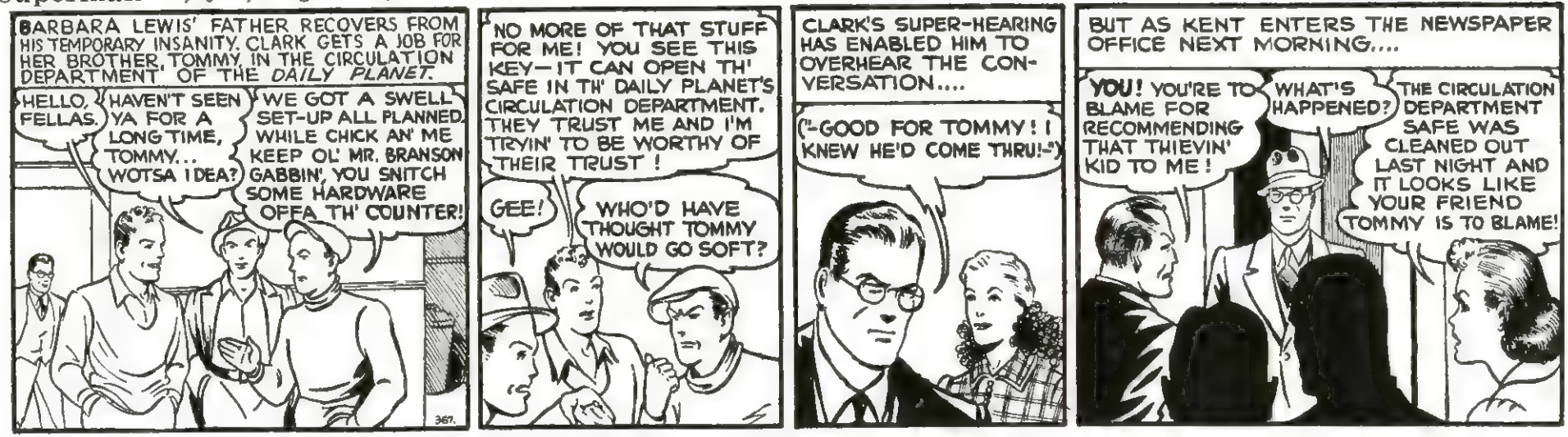
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Lois Gets a Shock* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *"Home"* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster — *Tommy a Thief?* — (Copyright, 1940.)



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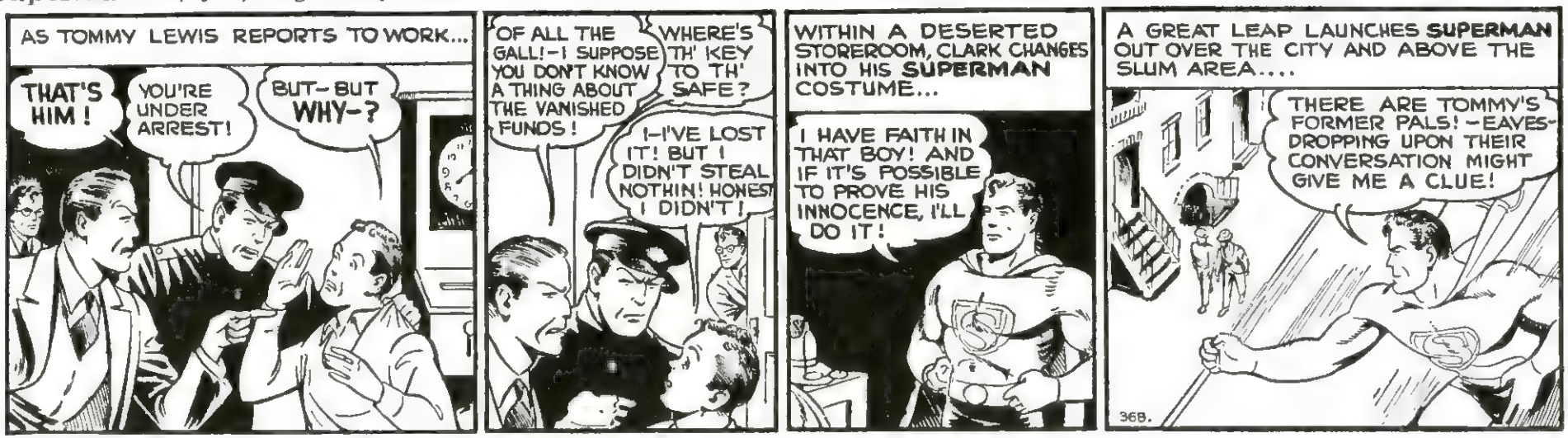
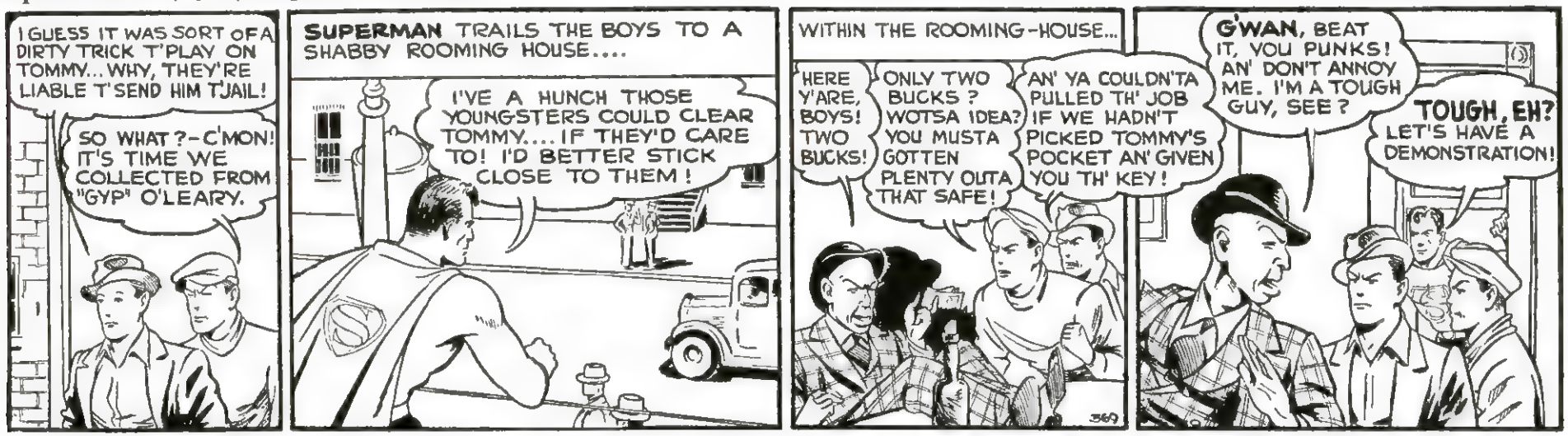


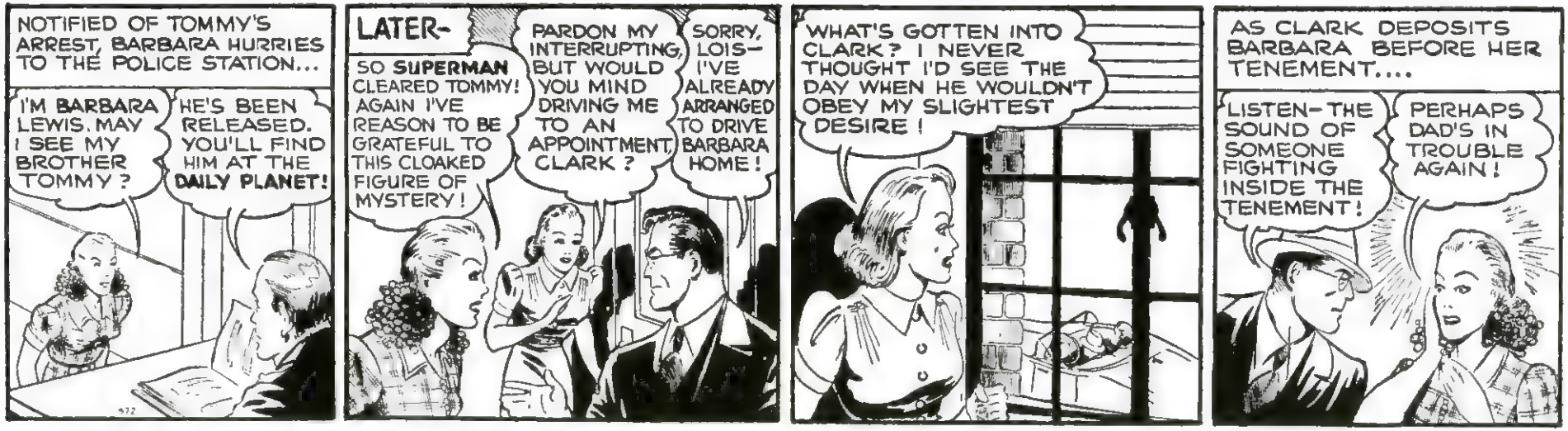
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *He Wants to Be Shown!* (Copyright, 1940)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *"Gyp" the Acrobat* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Tommy Cleared!* (Copyright, 1940.)

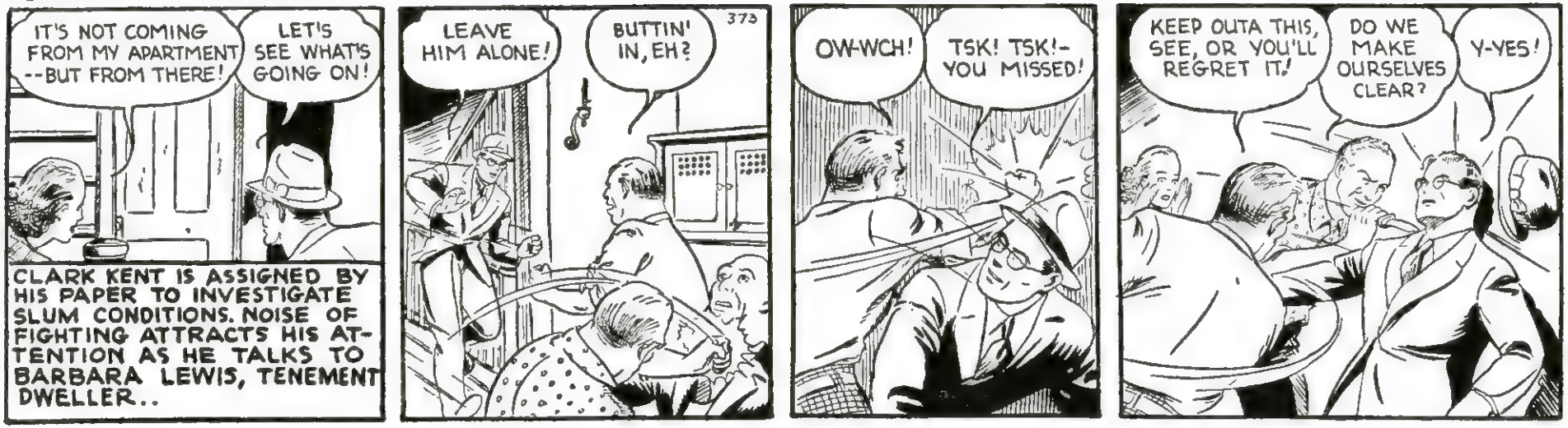
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Can This Be Clrk?* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Easy to Convince.

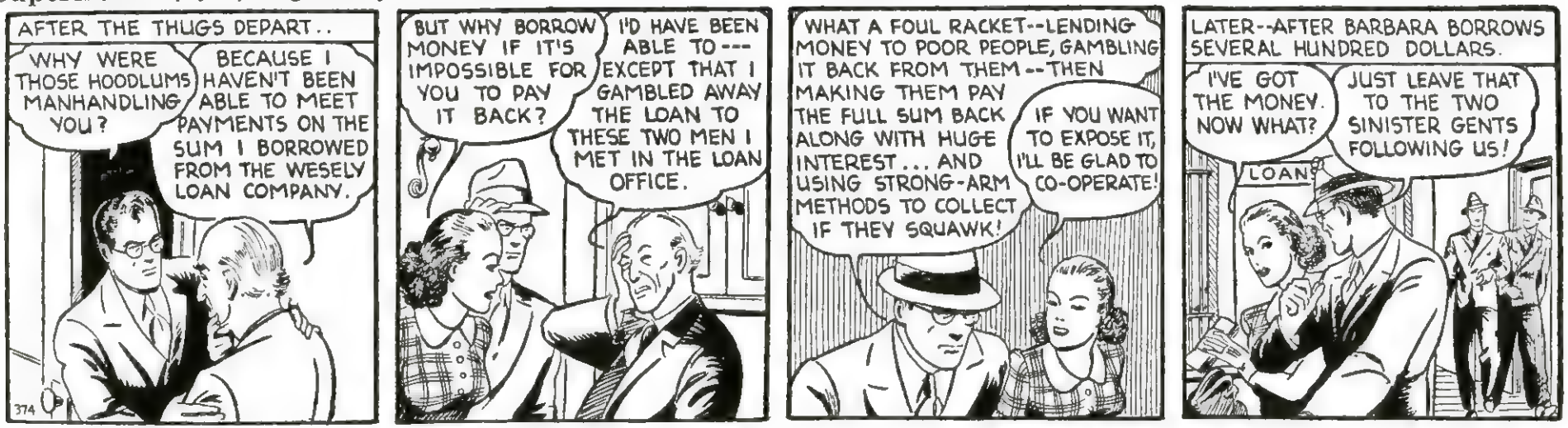
(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Money to Burn.

(Copyright, 1940.)



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Superman Takes a Hand

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Cheating the Cheaters.

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No "Break" for the Thug

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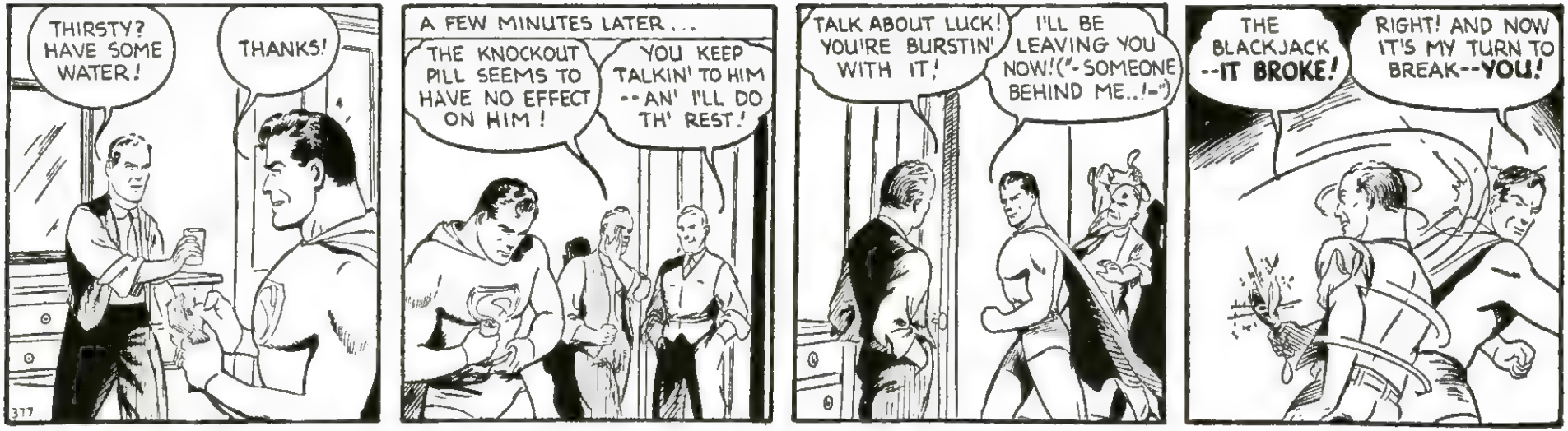

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Pay-Off for the Loan-Shark!

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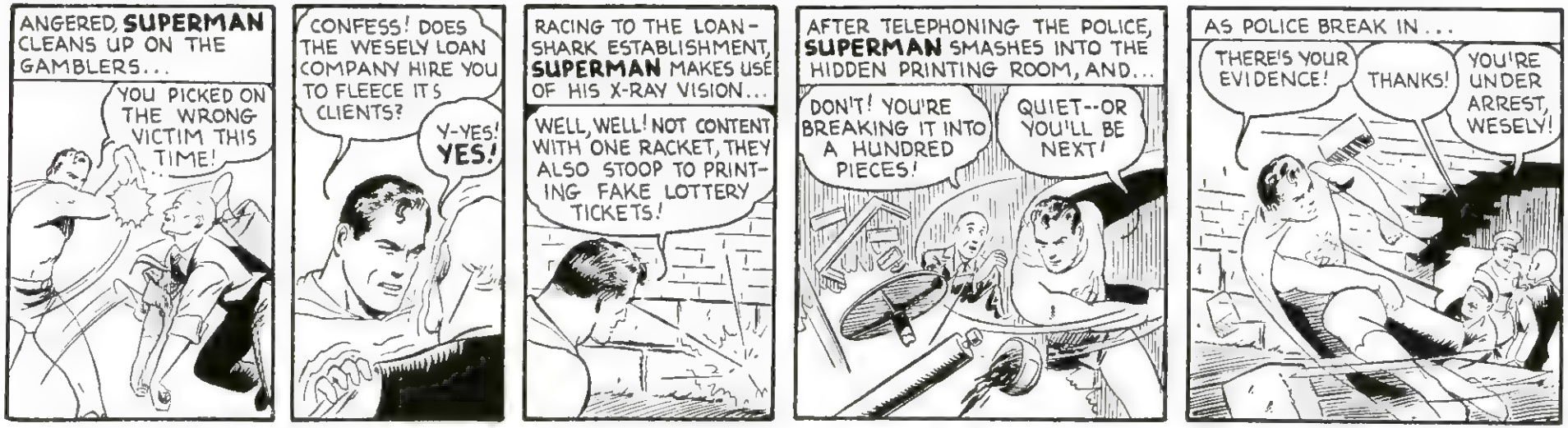

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Quiet, Please!

(Copyright, 1940.)

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Dead End.

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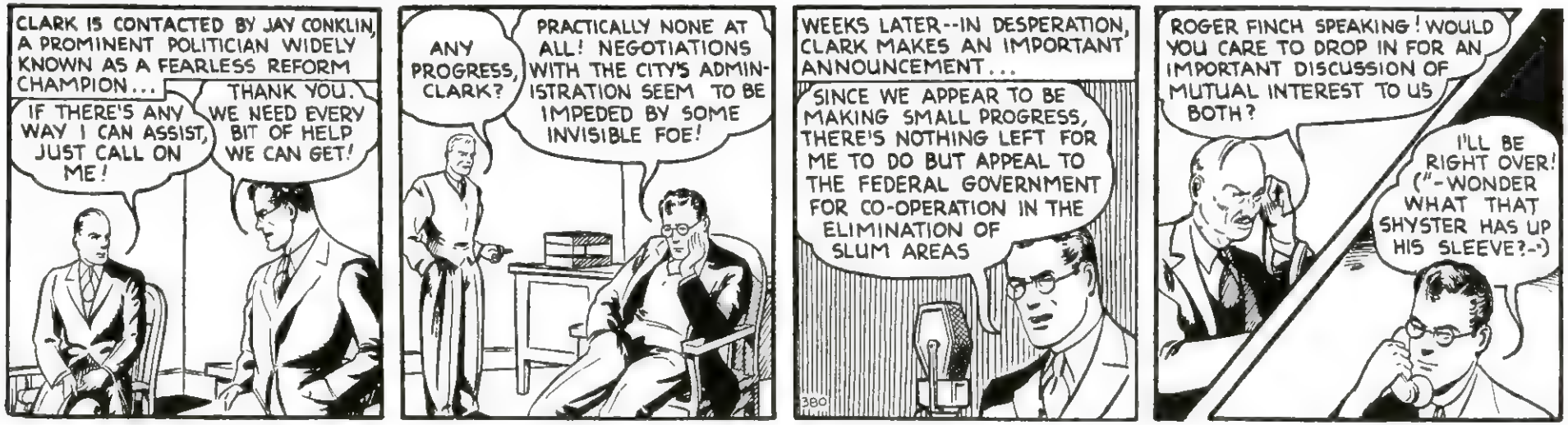

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Play Ball—Or Else

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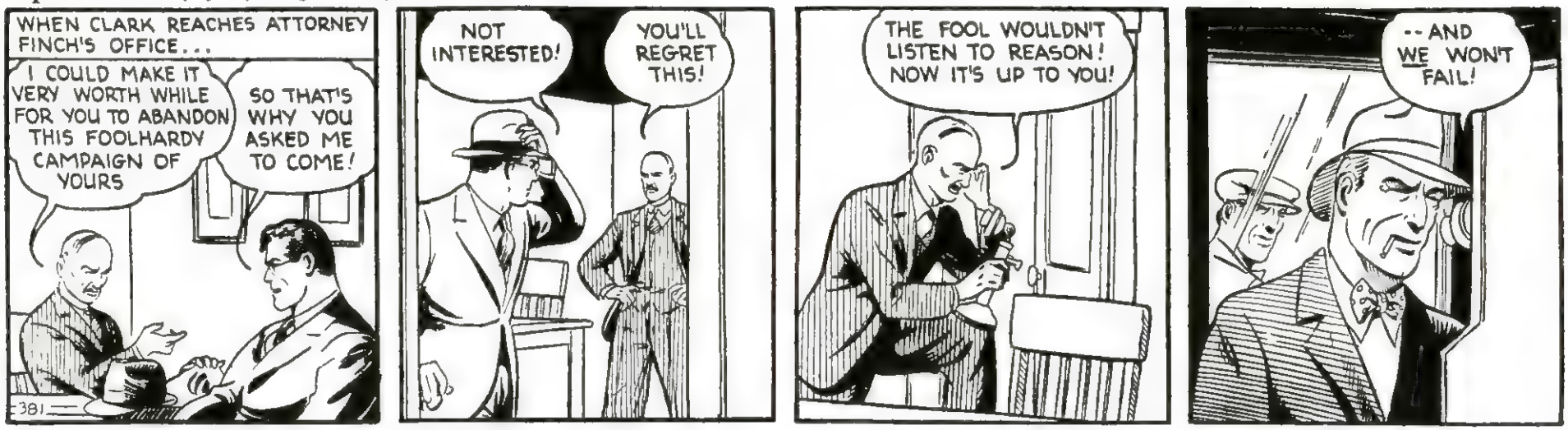
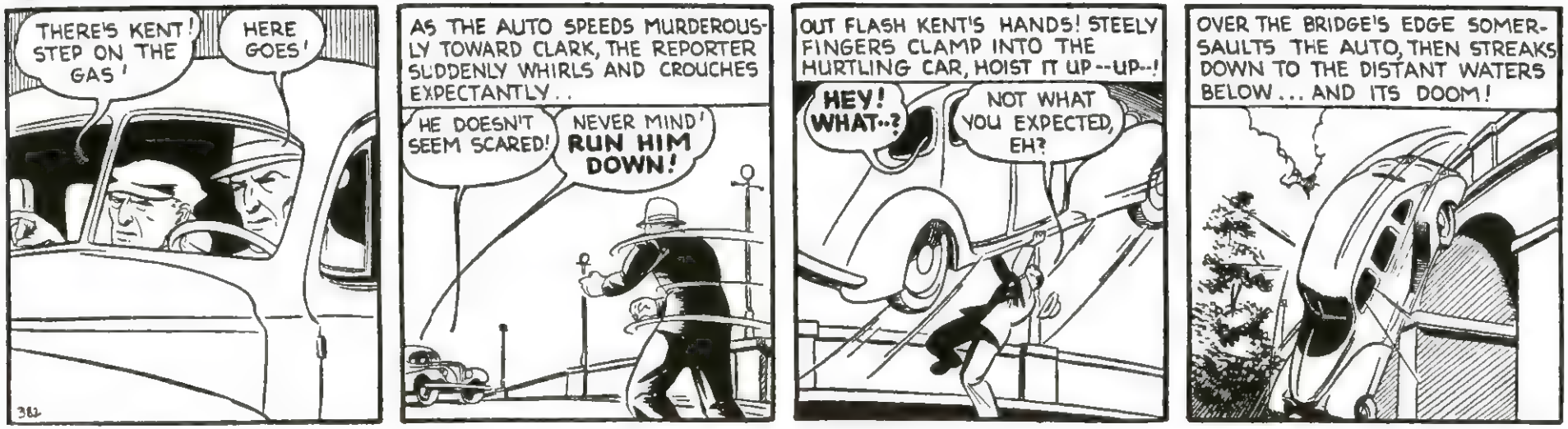


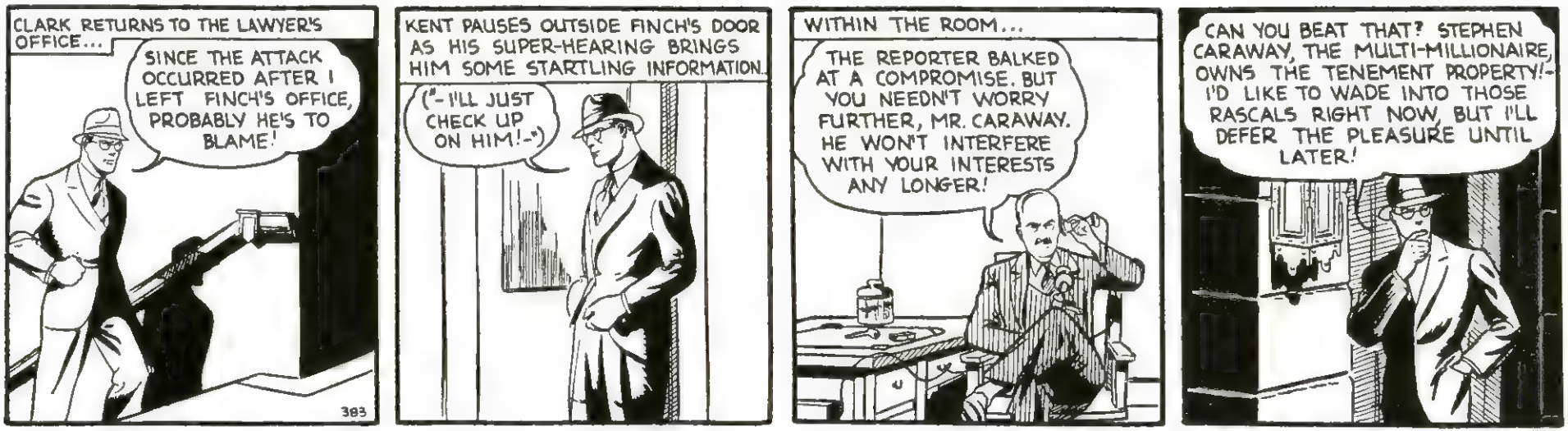
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Turning the Tables

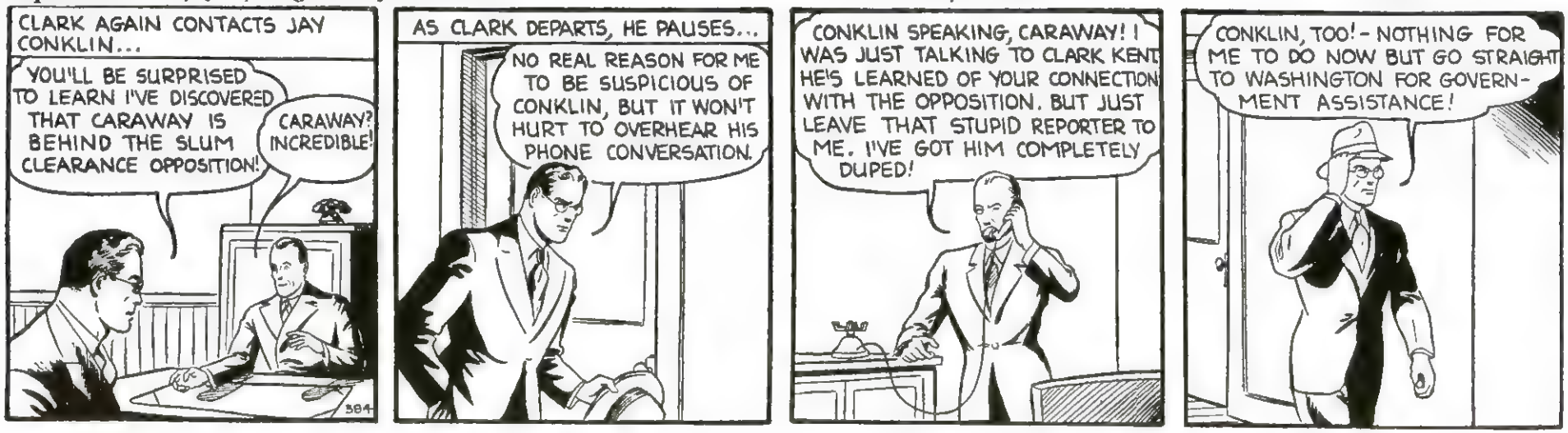
(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Kent Writes an I. O. U.* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Too Many Crooks* (Copyright, 1940.)



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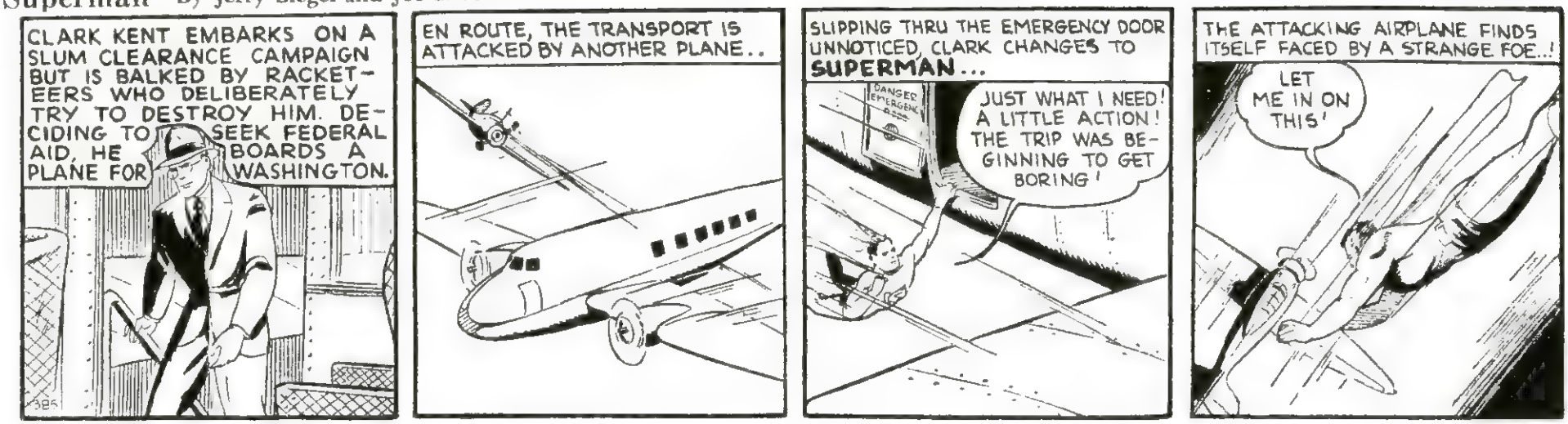
Rarin' to Go!

(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Close Call for Kent

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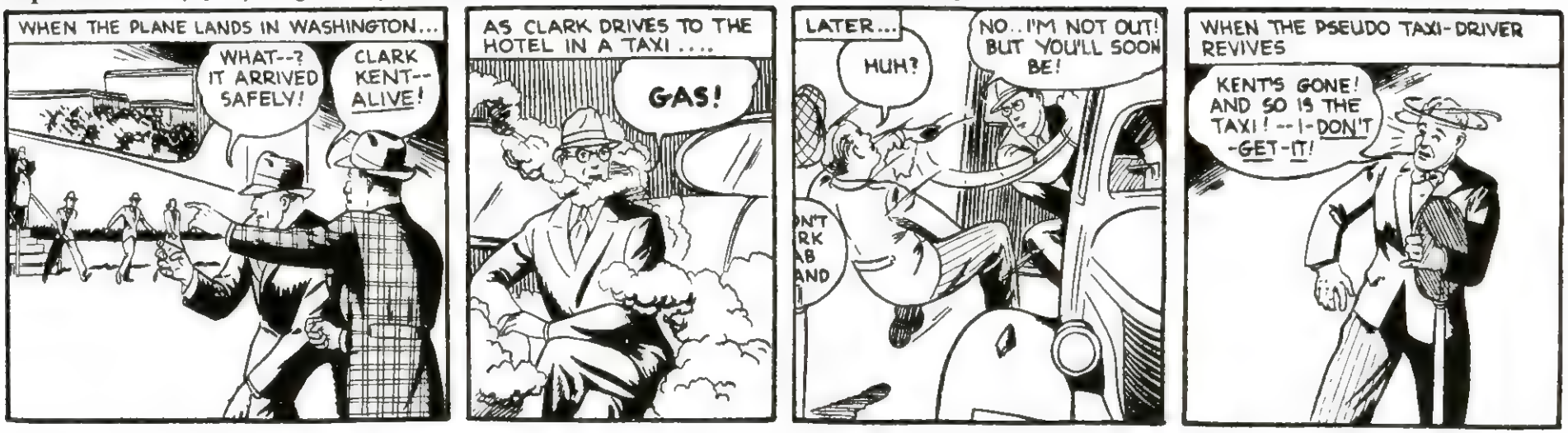
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Enigma* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Blast in the Night* (Copyright, 1940.)

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No Rest for the Weary

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Quick Change

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Richman, Poor Man

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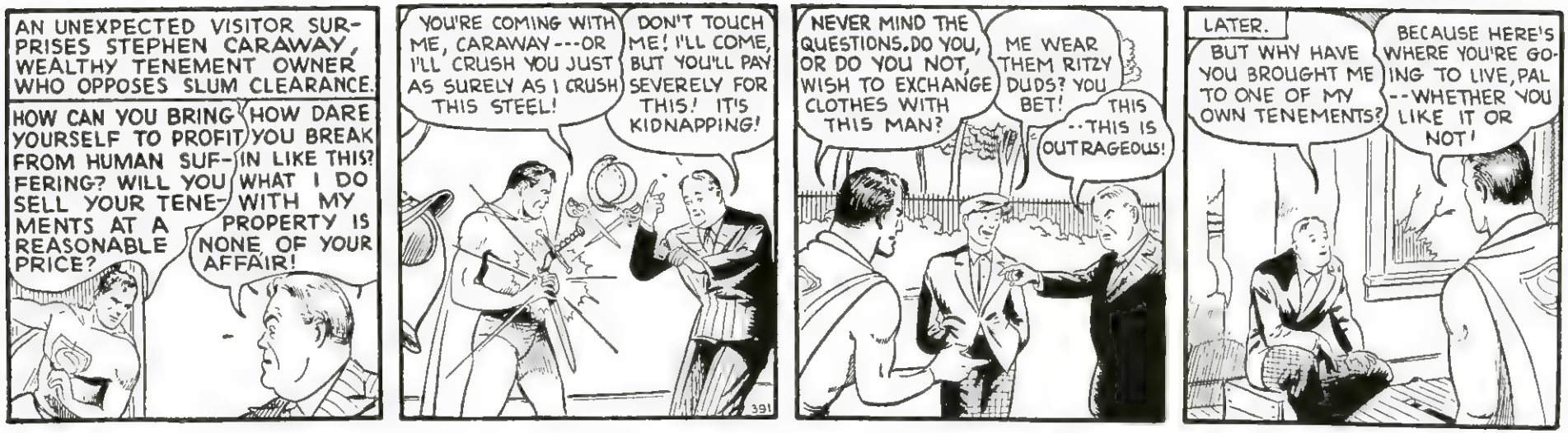

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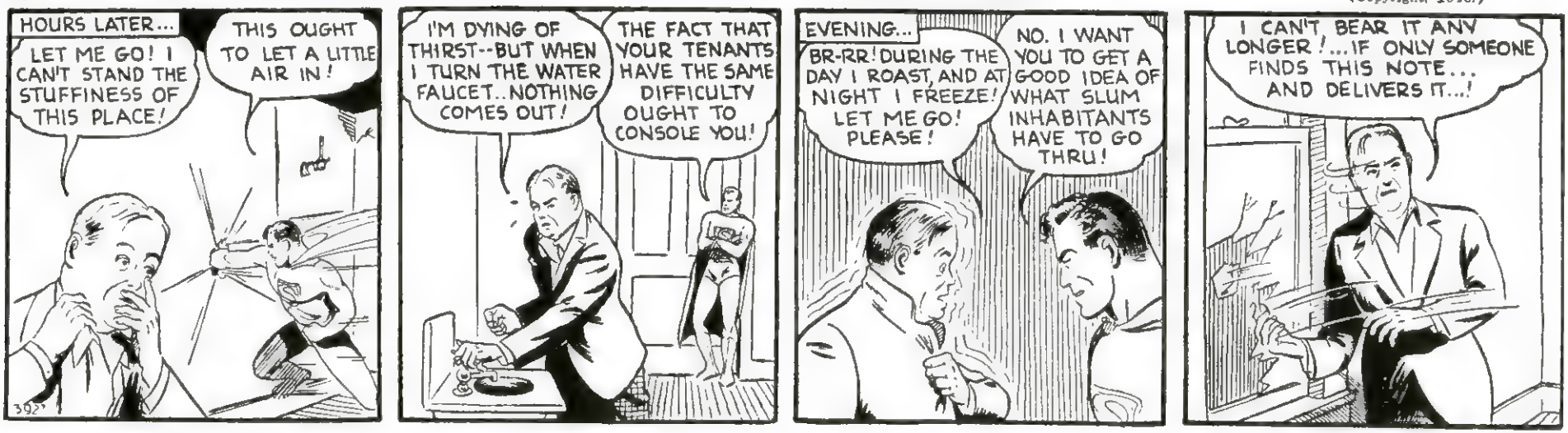
His Own Medicine

(Copyright, 1940.)



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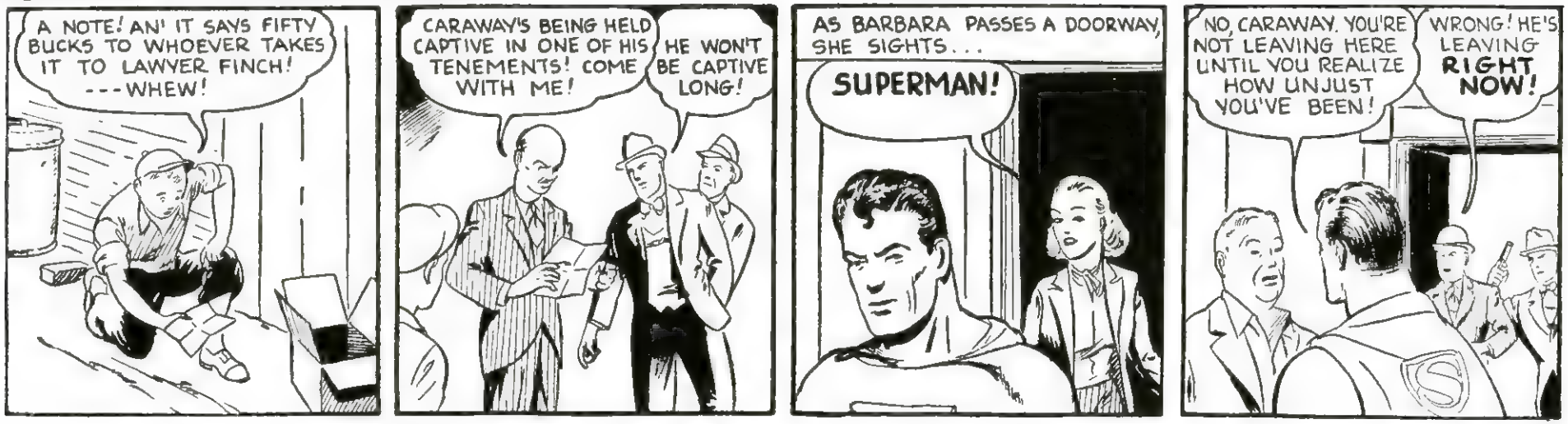
A Point for Debate

(Copyright, 1940.)



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And No Parachutes

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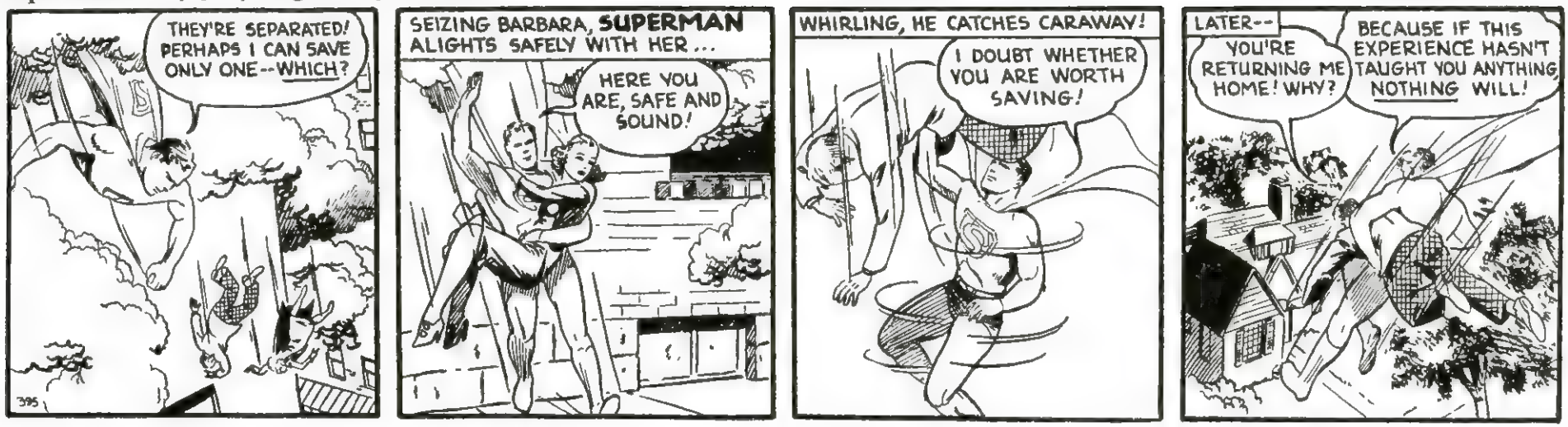
Some People Never Learn

(Copyright, 1940)



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A New Deal for Slum Dwellers

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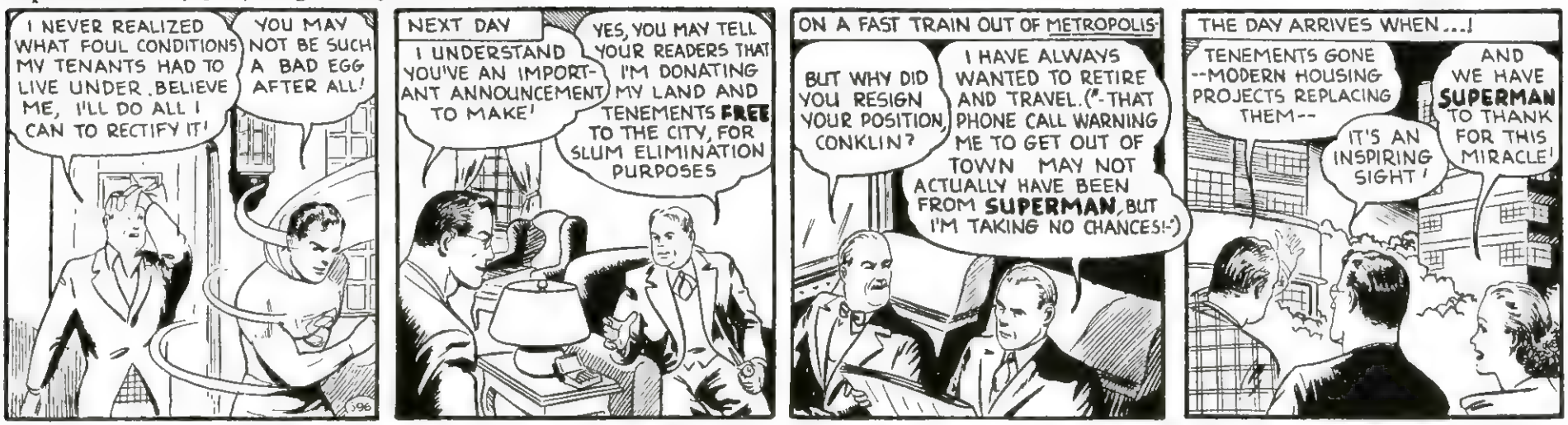

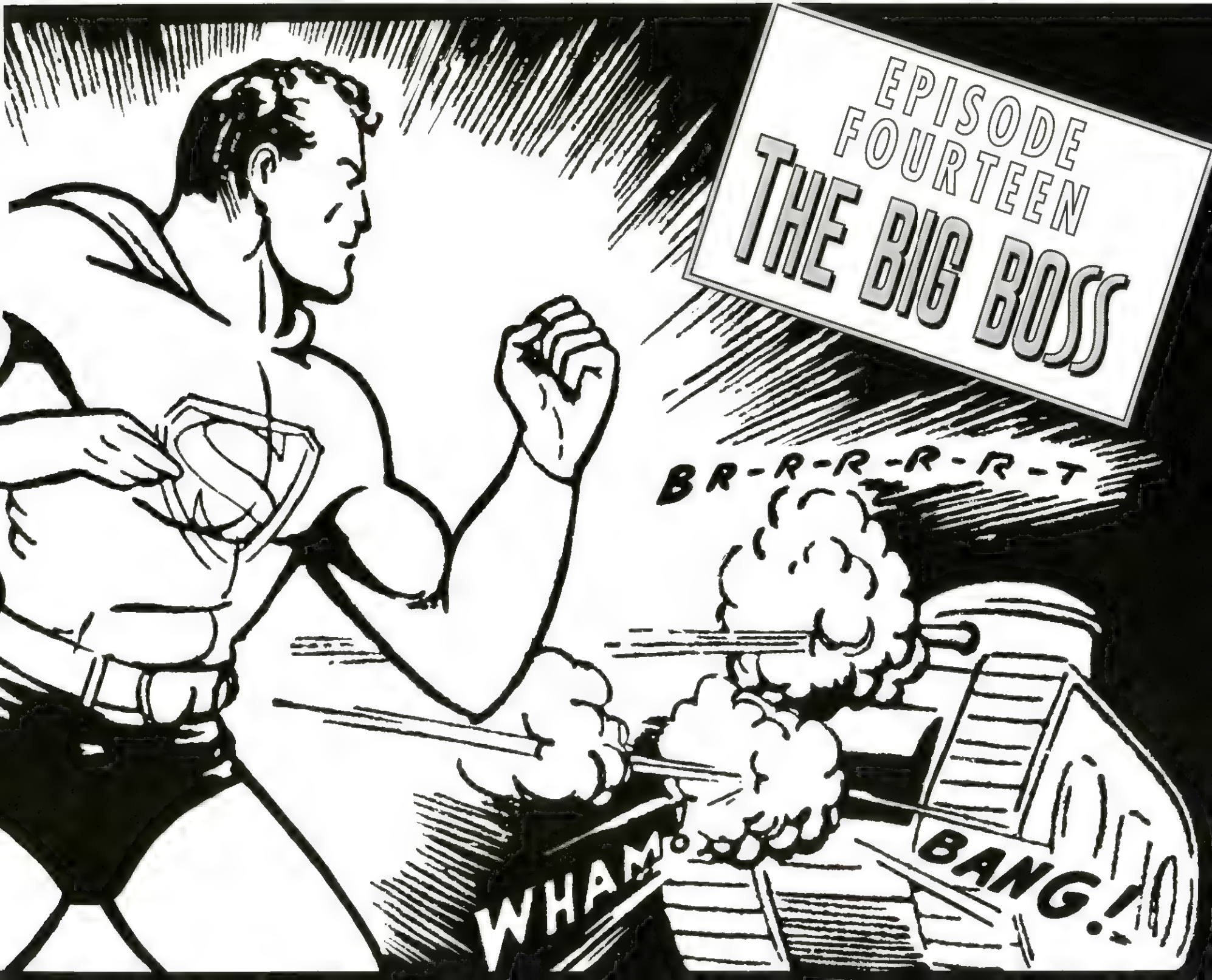
EPISODE FOURTEEN
THE BIG BOSS
BR-R-R-R-R-T
WHAM
BANG!

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Scents a Story

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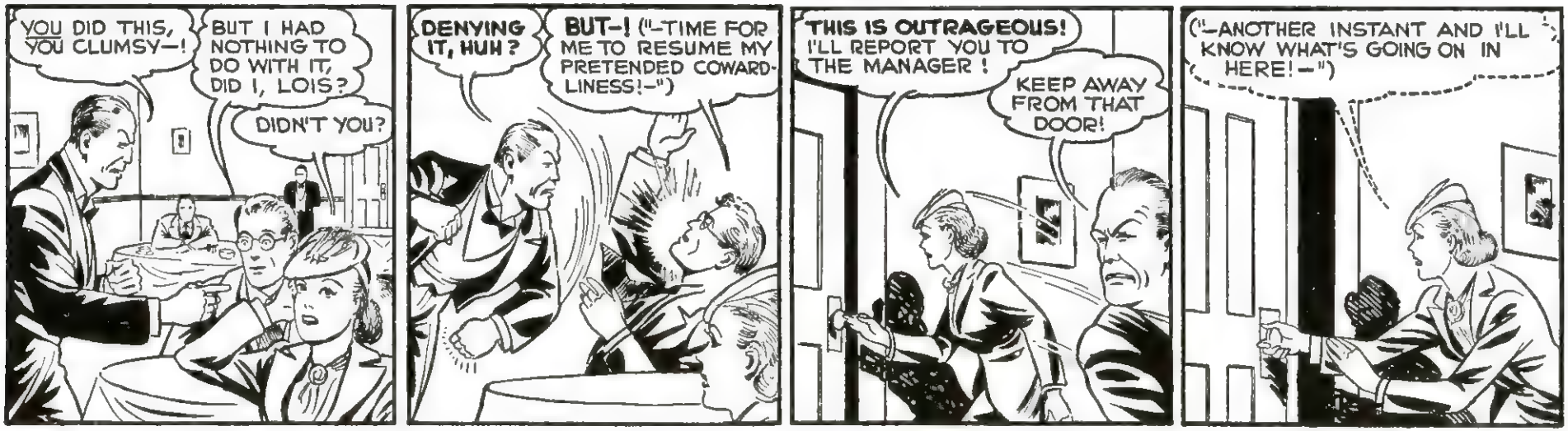
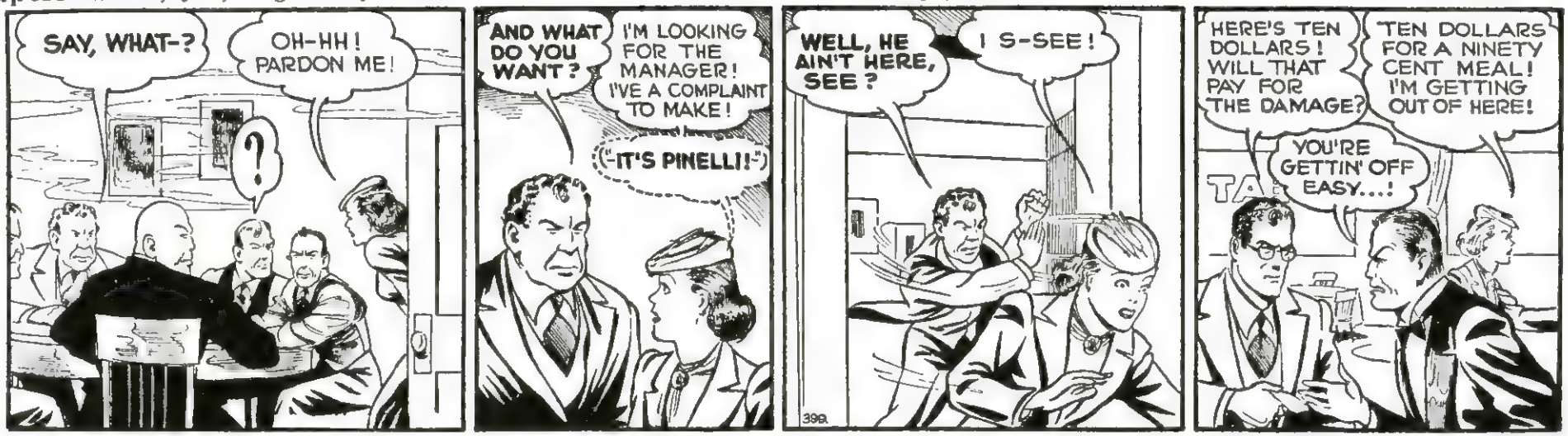
Behind the Door—??

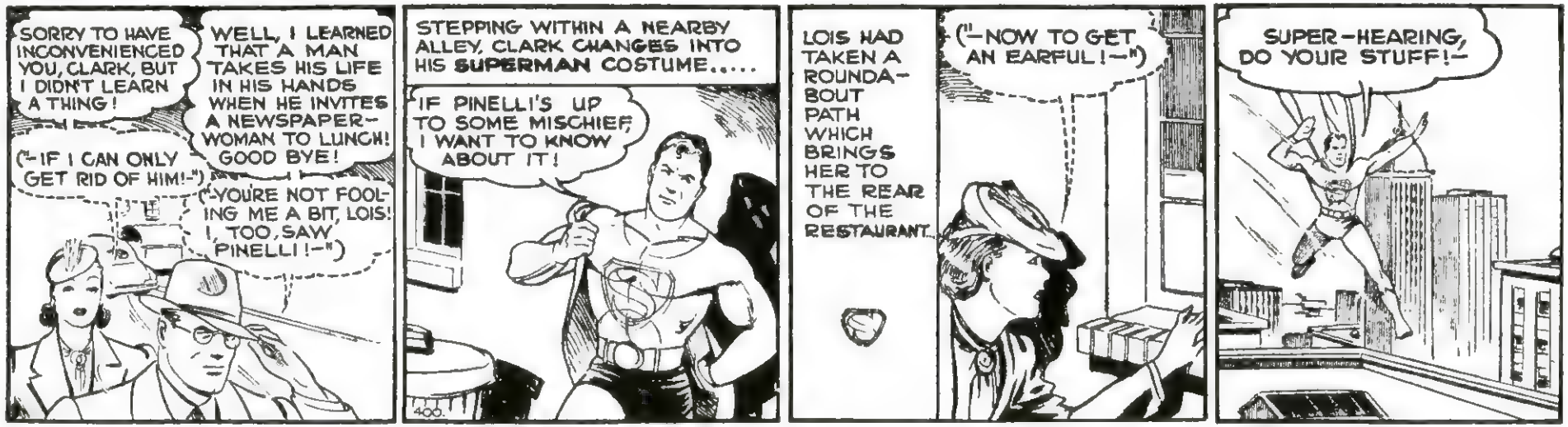
(Copyright, 1940.)



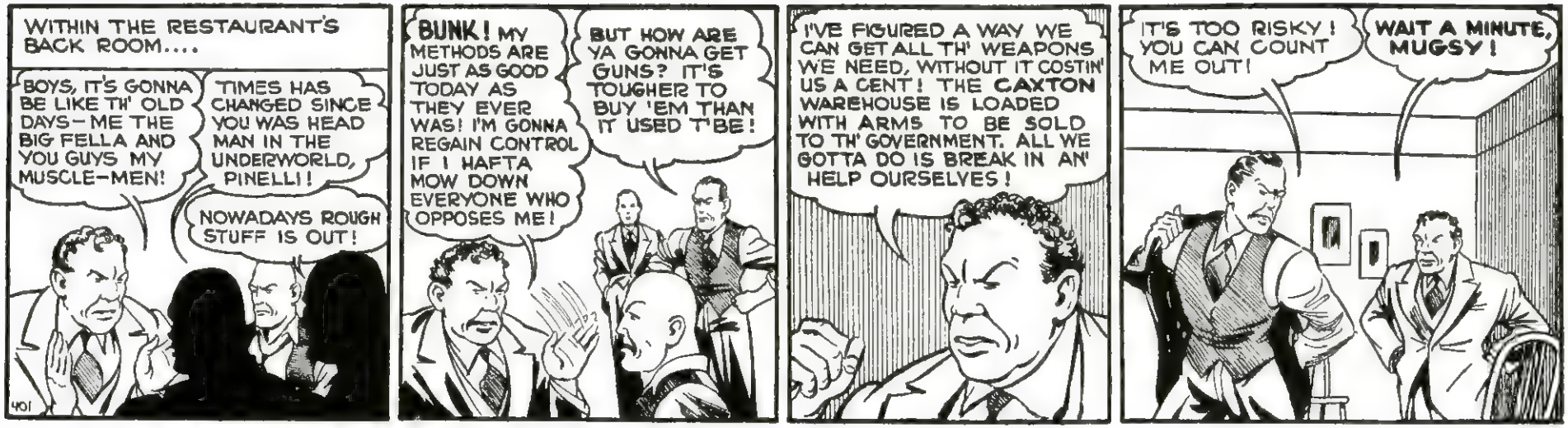
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Clip Joint.* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Hot on the Trail* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Can Pinelli Stage a Come-Back?* (Copyright, 1939.)



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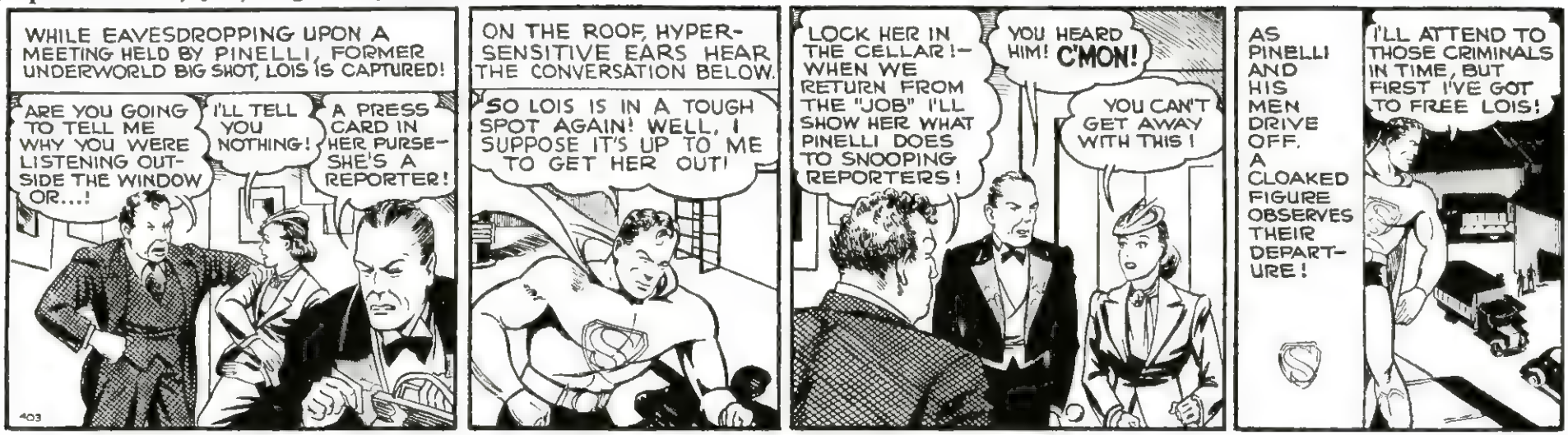
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Lois In a Jam* (Copyright, 1940.)



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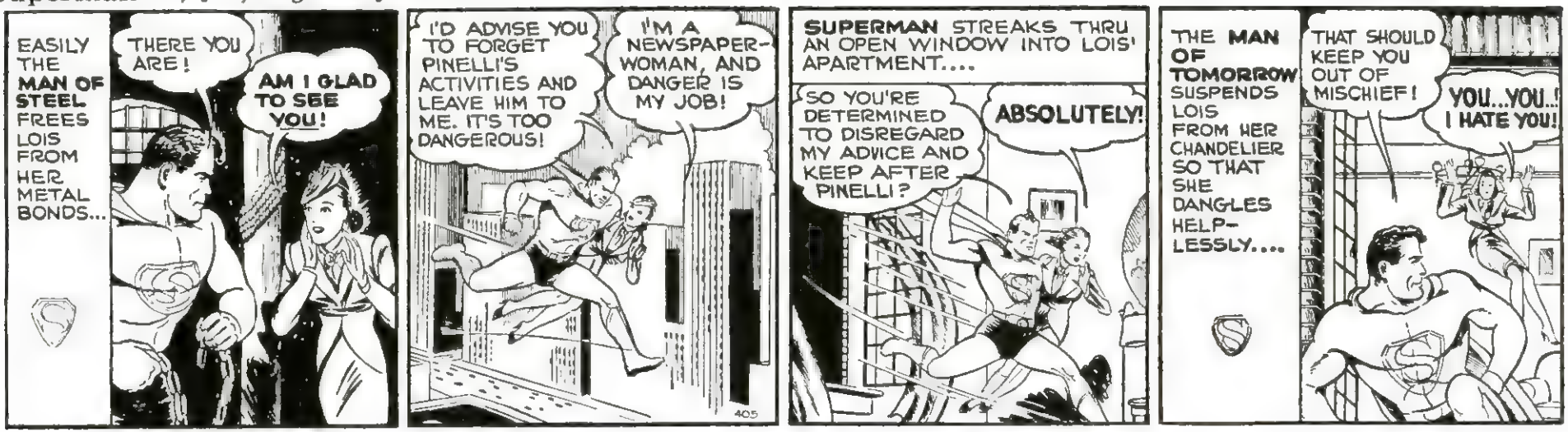
A Woman's Proper Place

(Copyright, 1940.)



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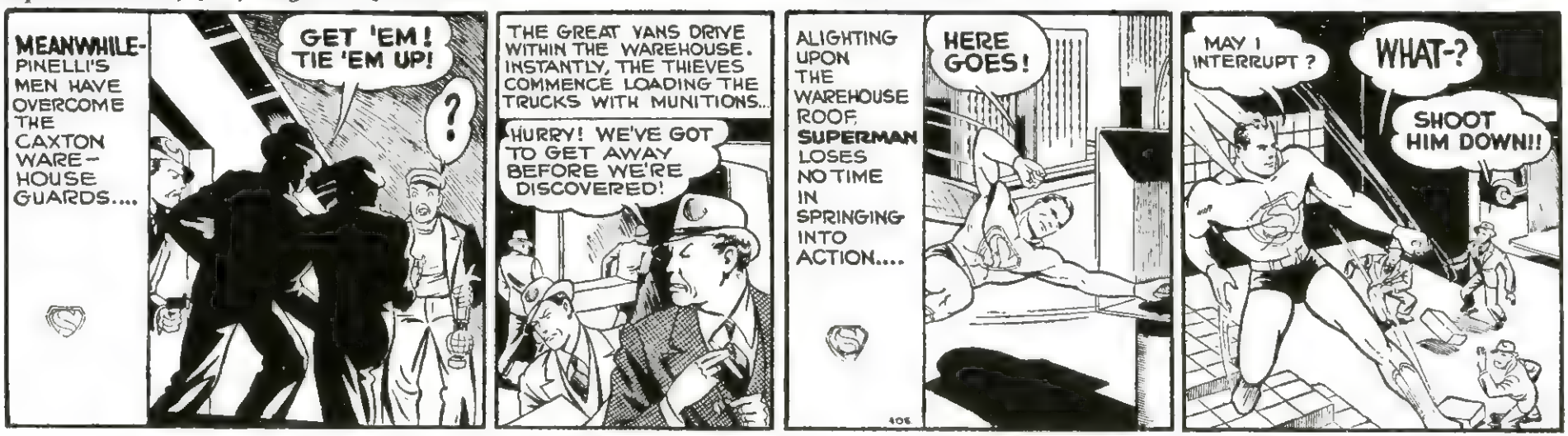
An Uninvited Guest

(Copyright, 1940.)



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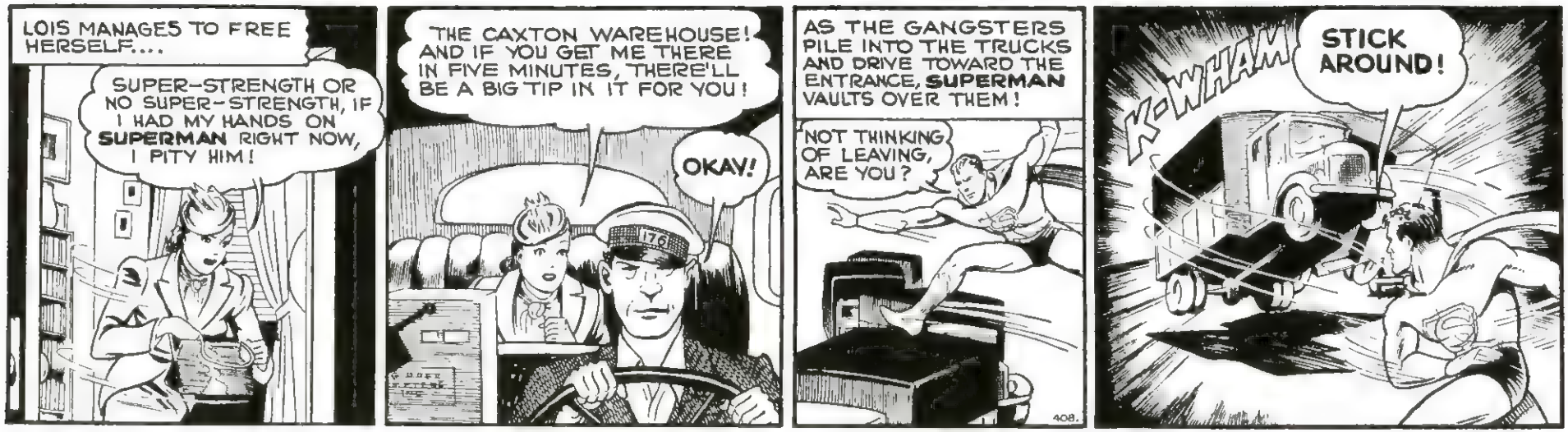
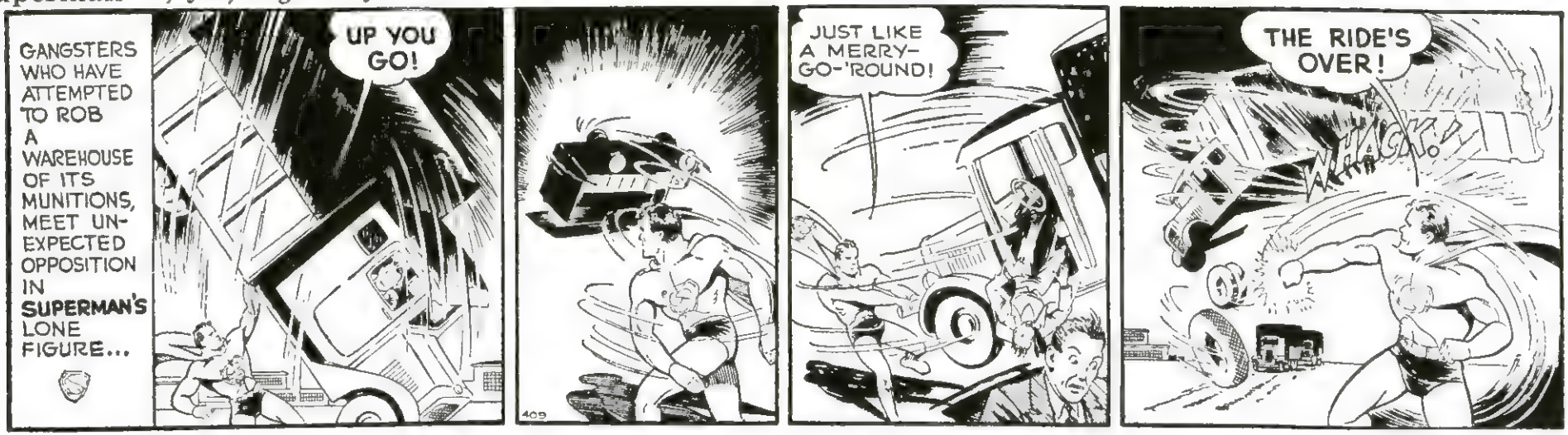
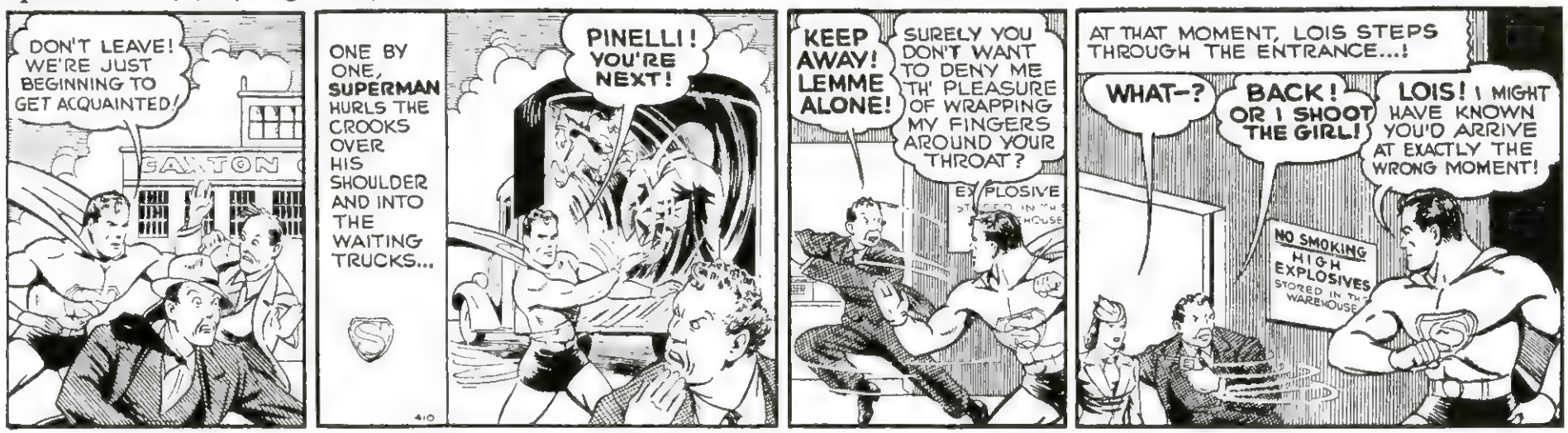
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *He Likes Company* (Copyright, 1940.)



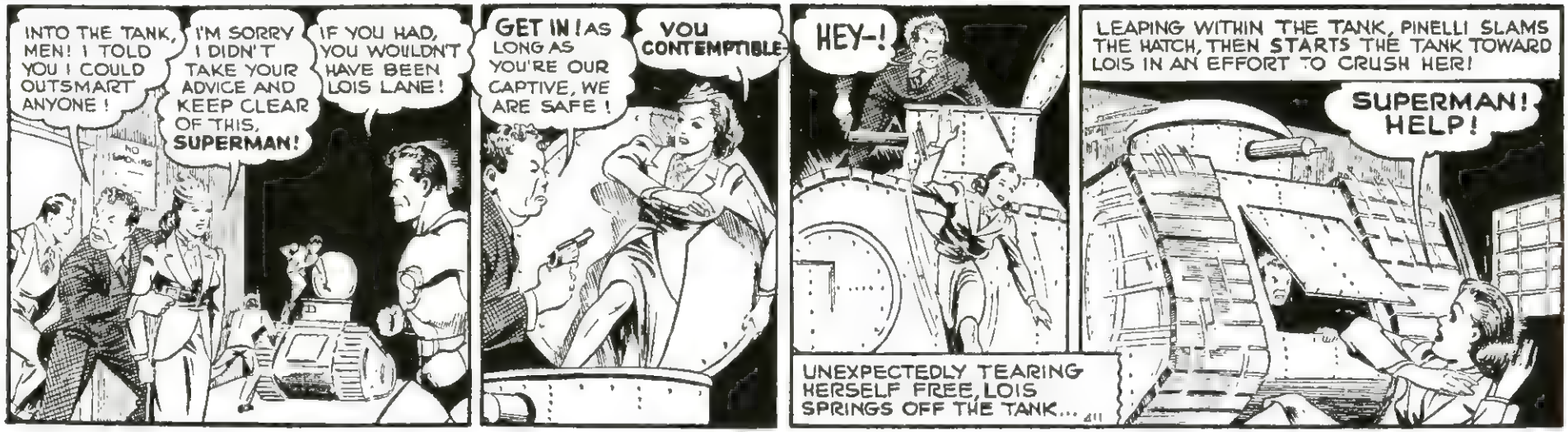
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Human Tornado!* (Copyright, 1940.)



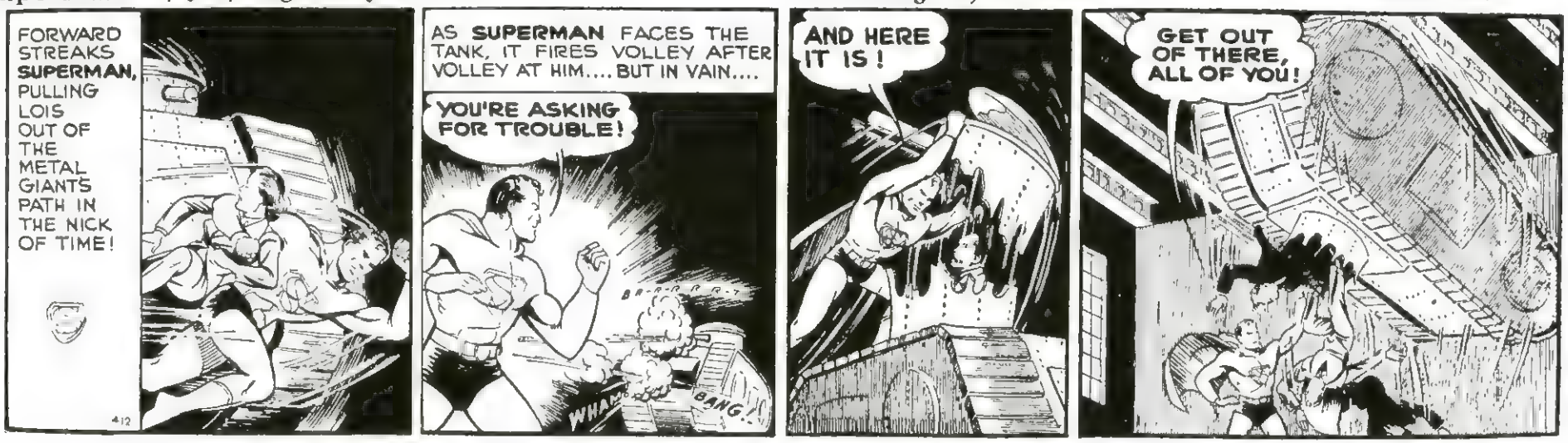
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Leave It to Lois!* (Copyright, 1940.



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Escape?* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *The Wrong Guy to Peeve!* (Copyright, 1940.)



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Exit Pinelli!

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Can It Be—Love?

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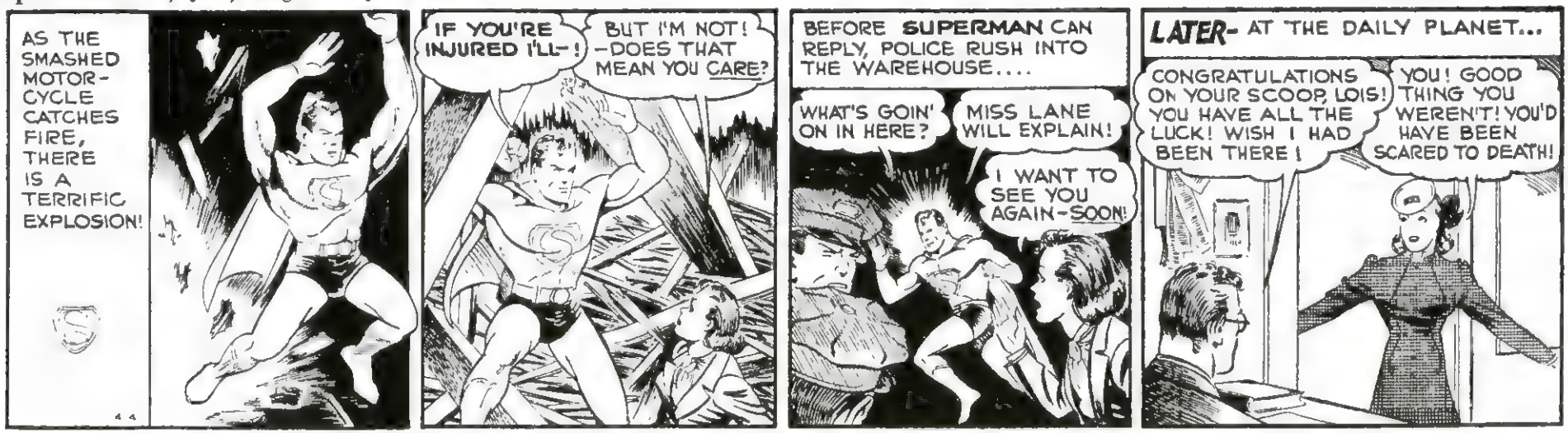
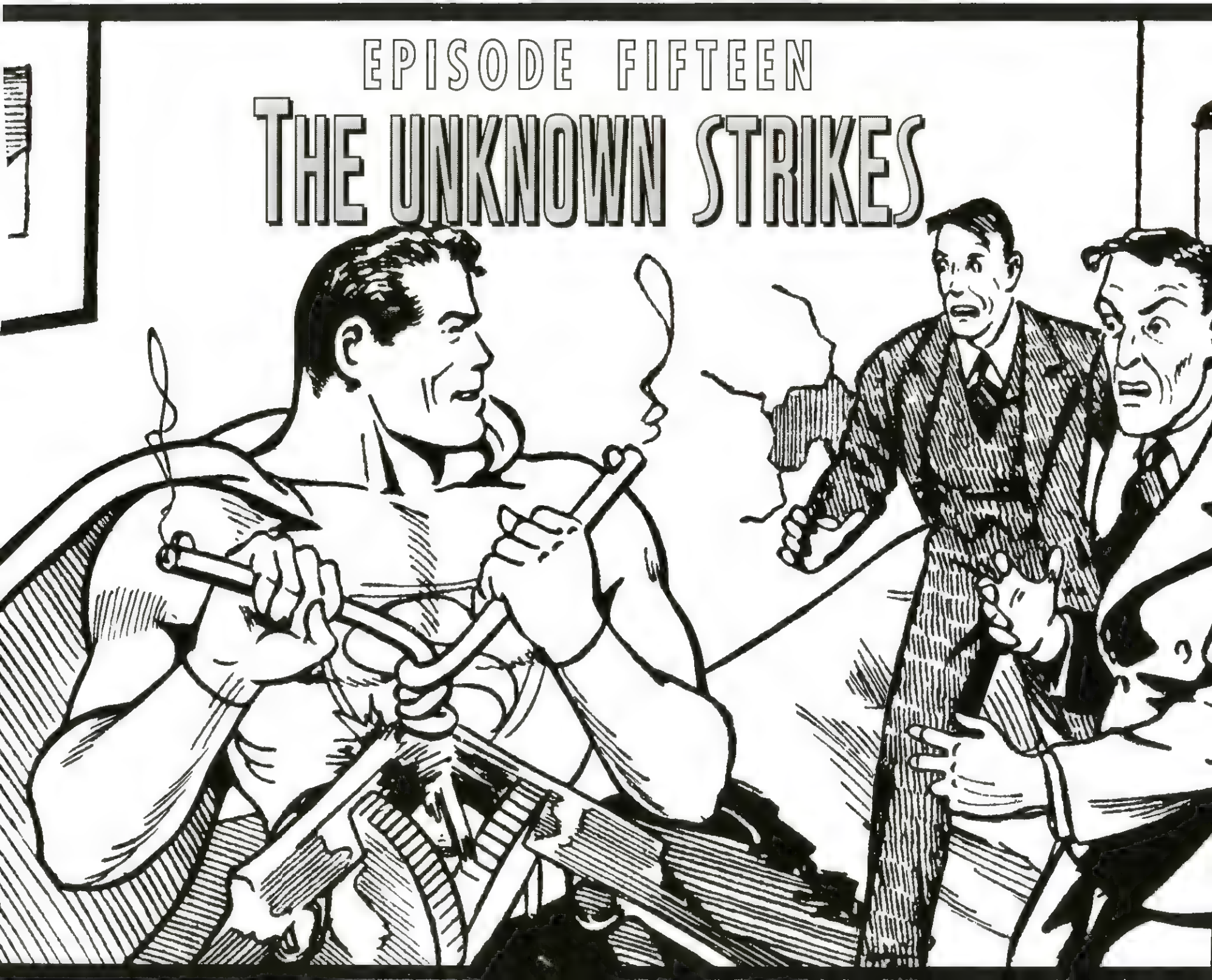


EPISODE FIFTEEN

THE UNKNOWN STRIKES



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Paging Reporter Kent!

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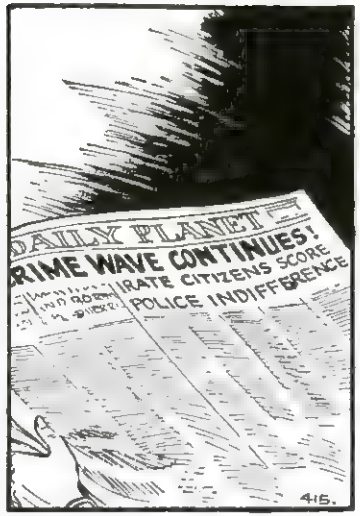

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A Silent Politician.

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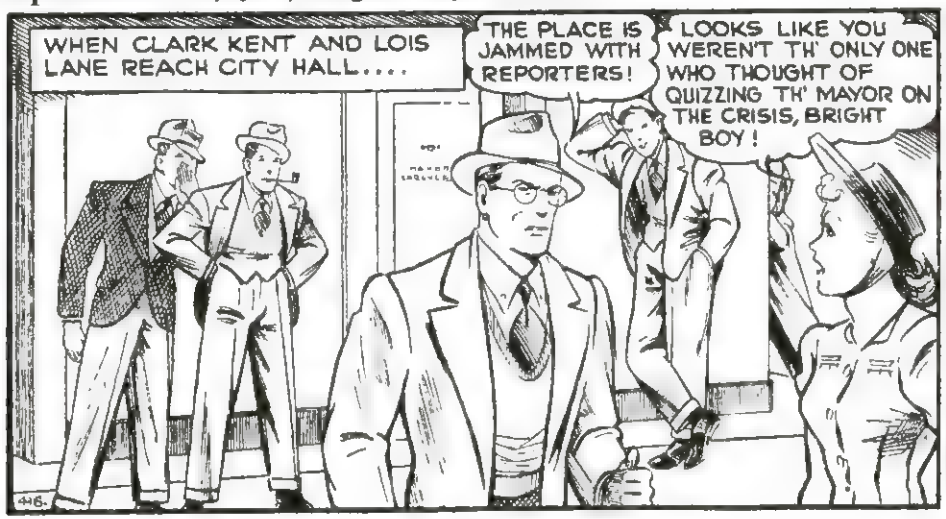

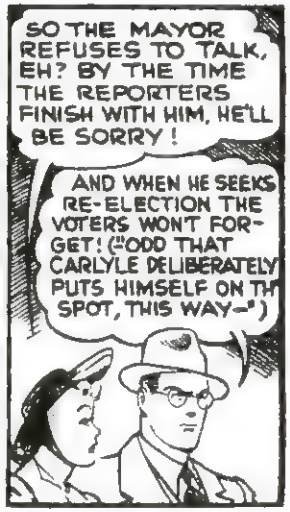

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Lois Has a Brainstorm

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Afterthought

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A Girl of Action!

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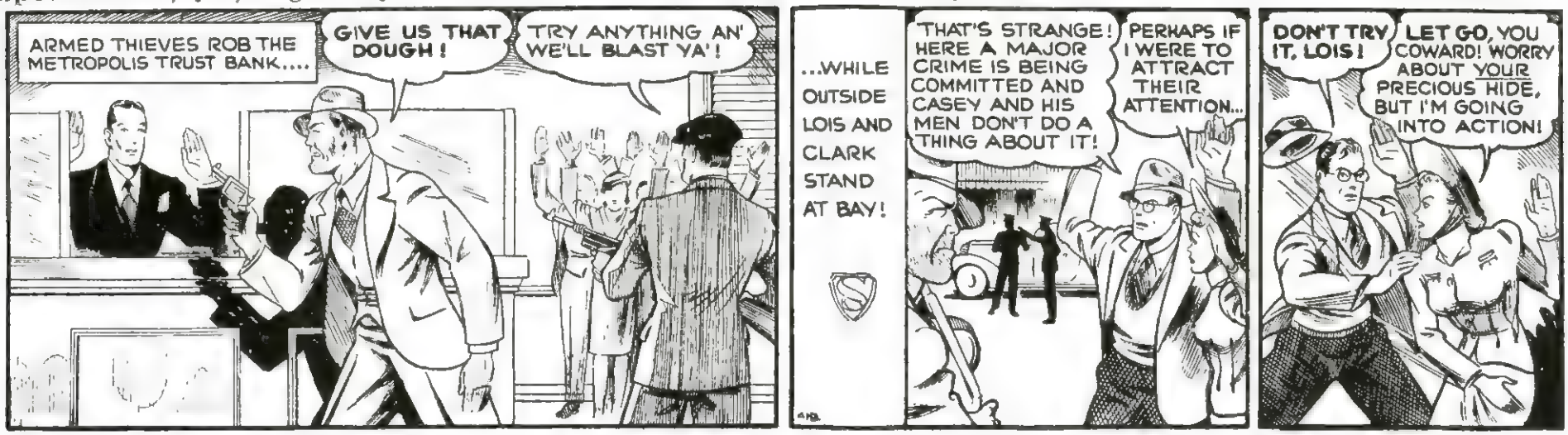

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Clark's Predicament

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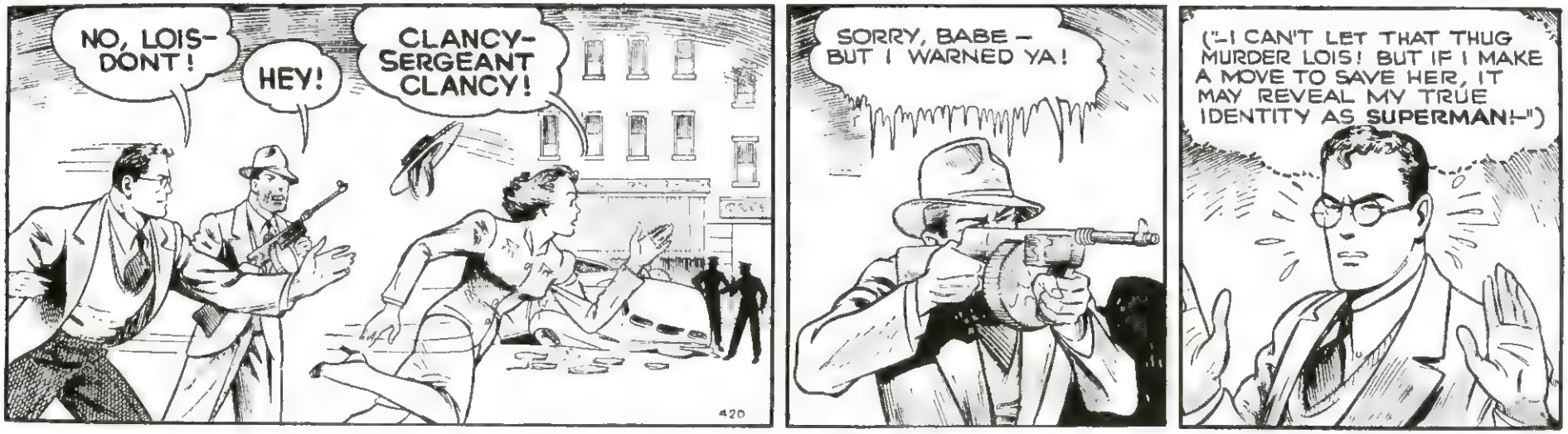
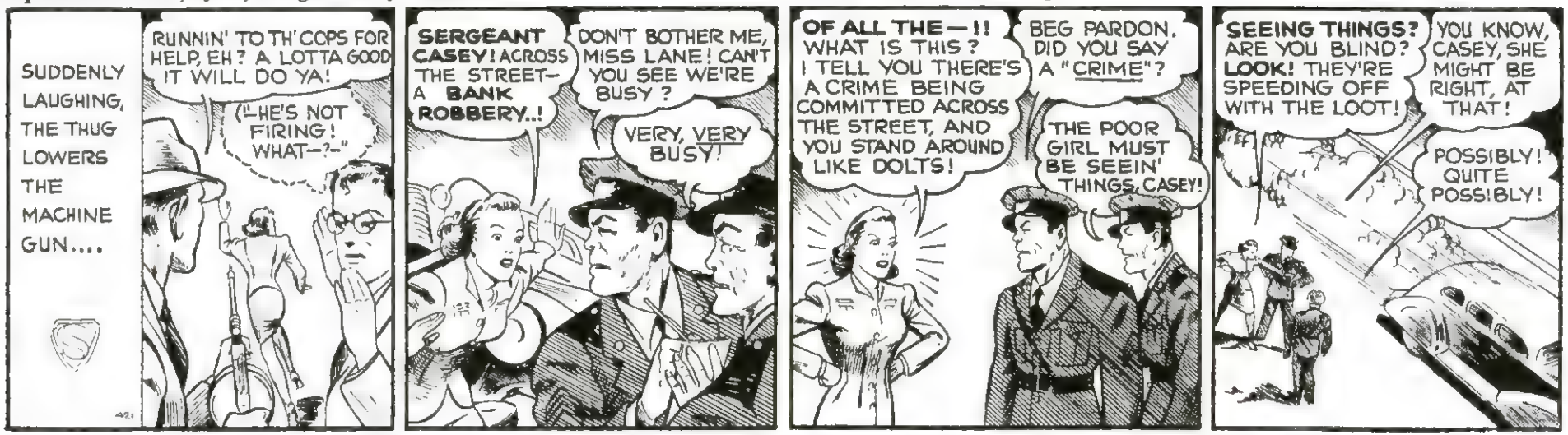
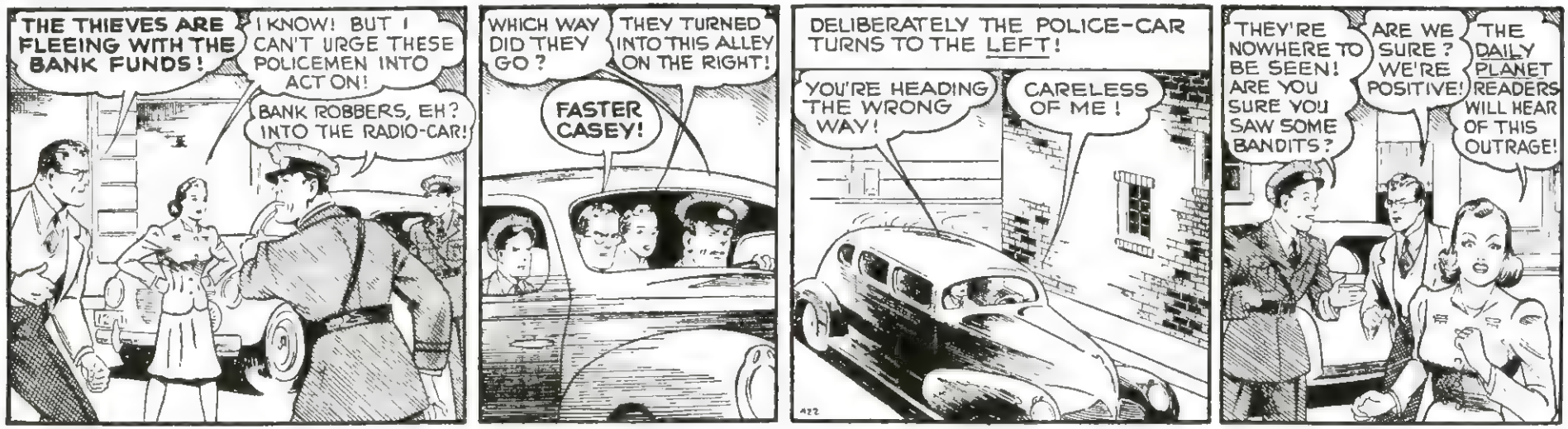


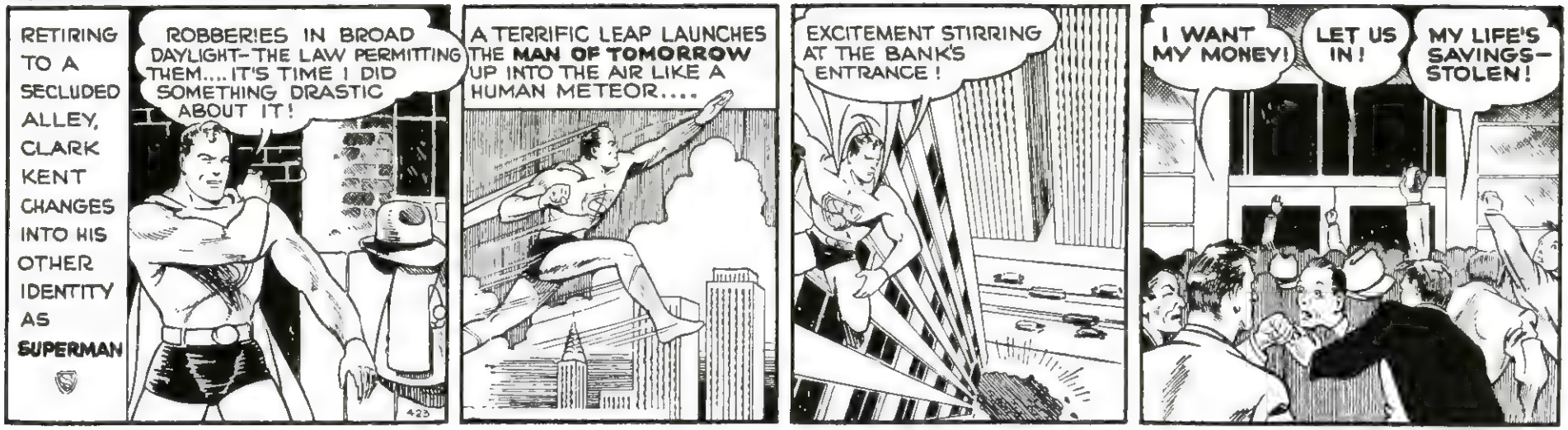
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Who's Seeing Things?* (Copyright, 1940)



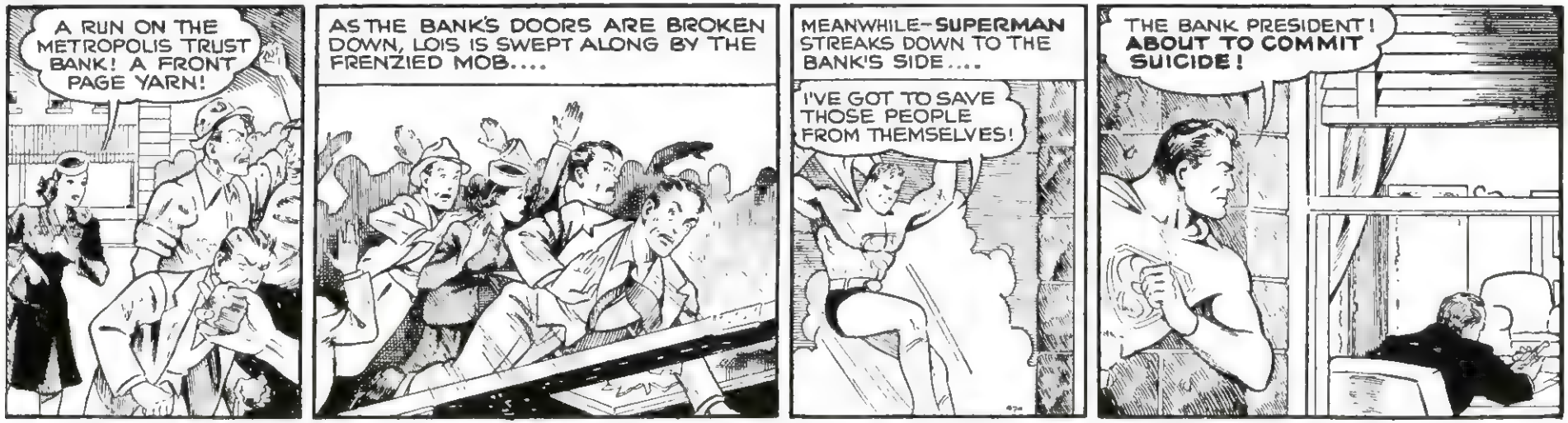
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Dirty Work at the Crossroads?* (Copyright, 1940)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *A Run for Their Money* (Copyright, 1940.)

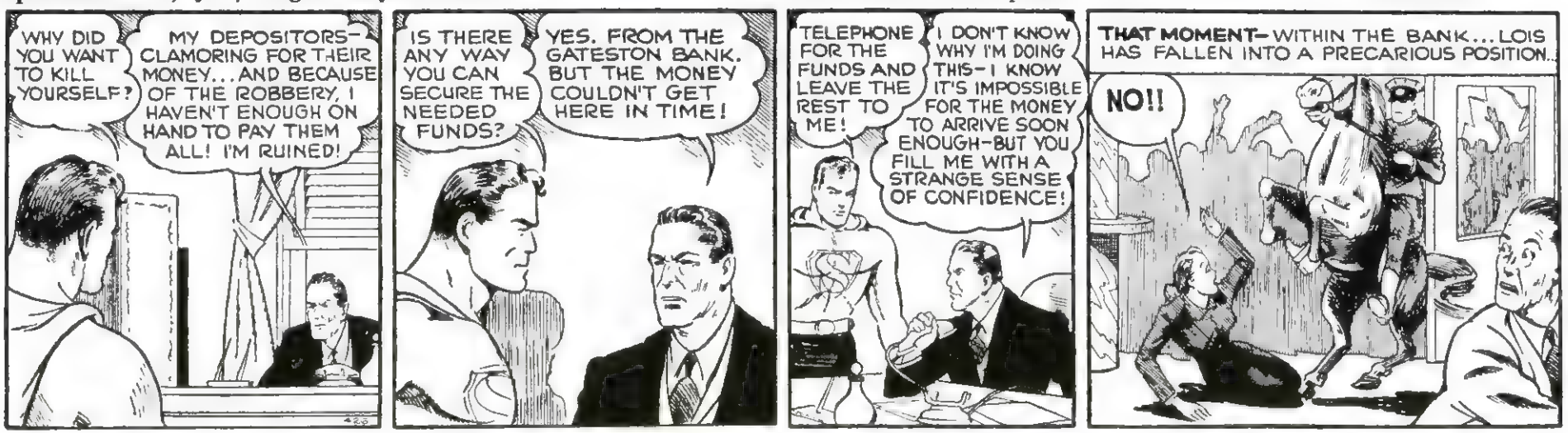


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Double Trouble.* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Man Beats Bullet!* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Can We Bank on Superman?* (Copyright, 1940.)



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Gentle Persuasion!

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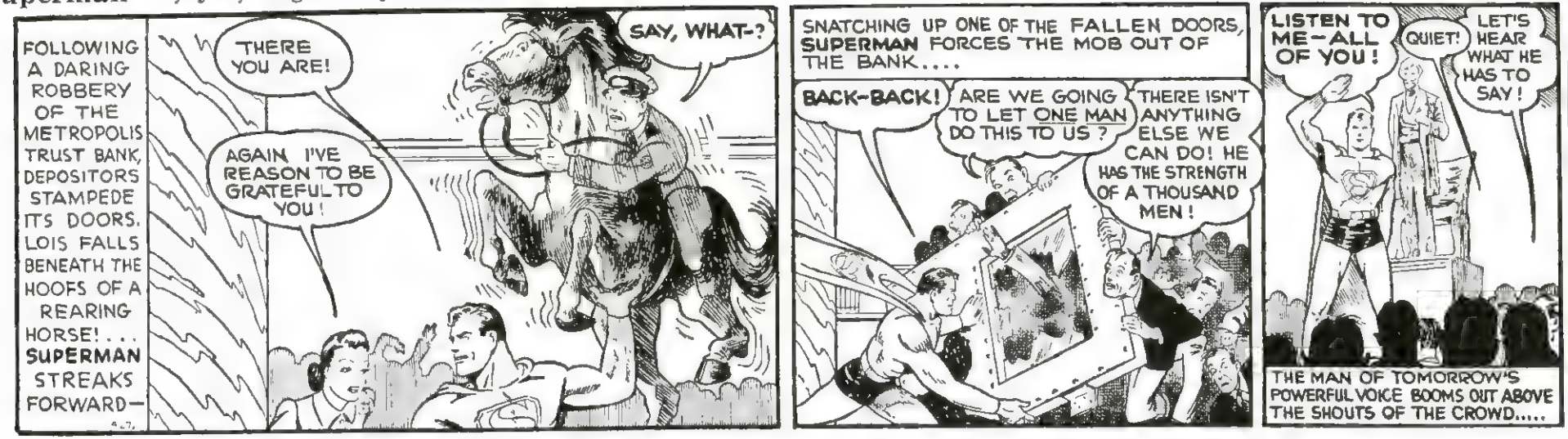

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It's a Deal.

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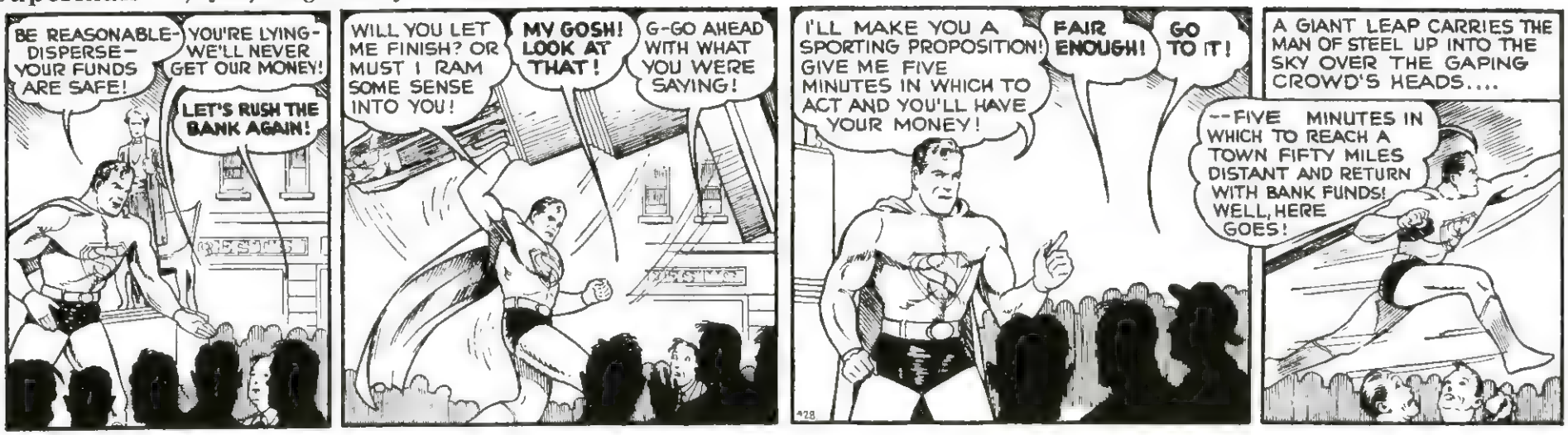

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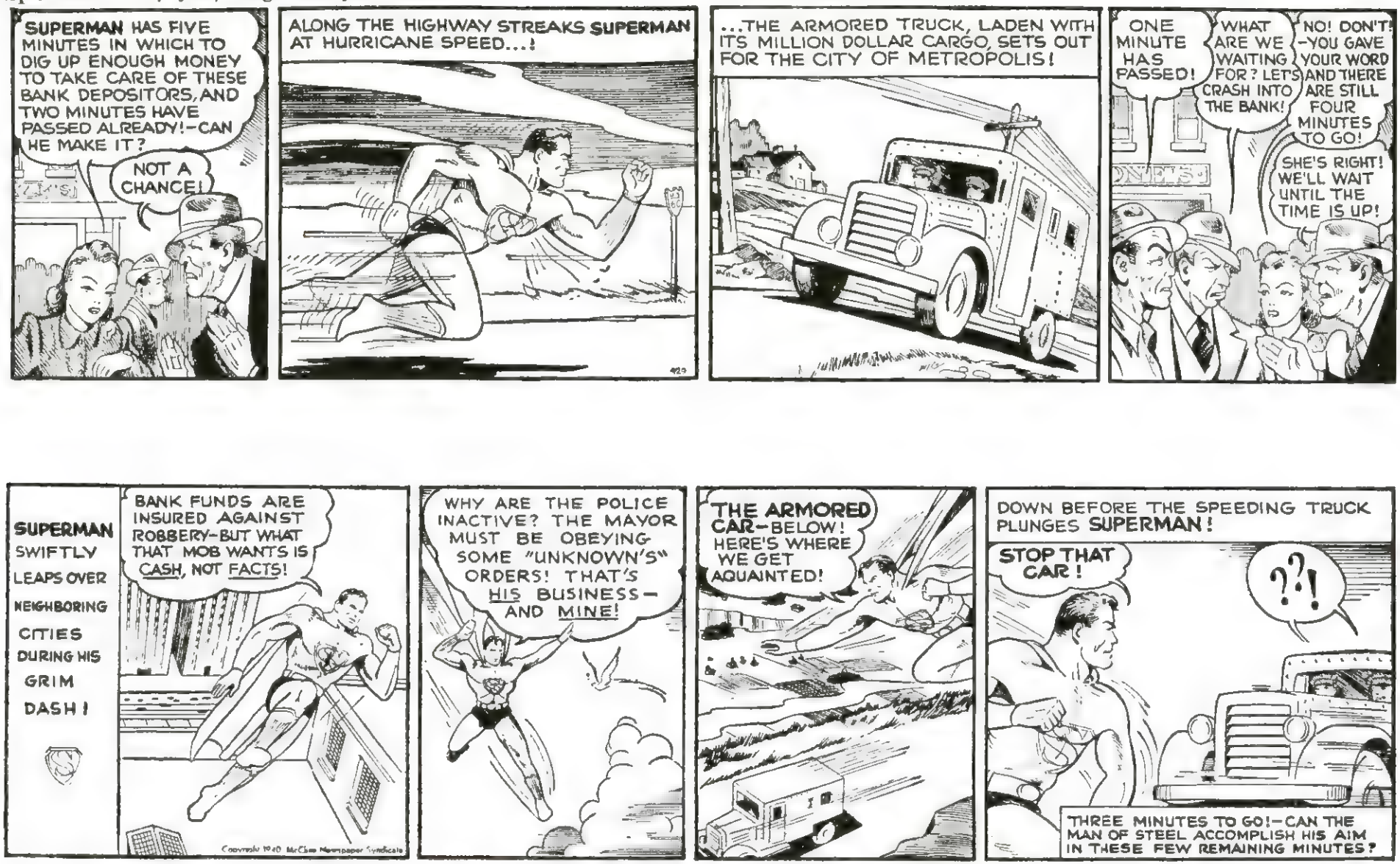
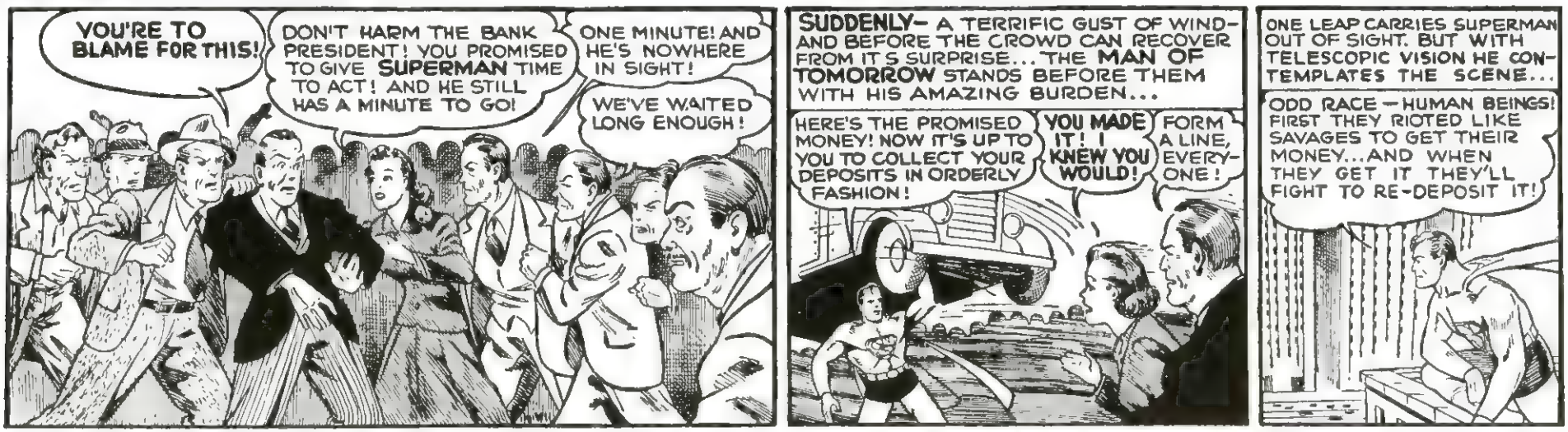
Four Minutes to Go!



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Floating Power.* (Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Right to the Second!* (Copyright, 1940)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Just Between Us

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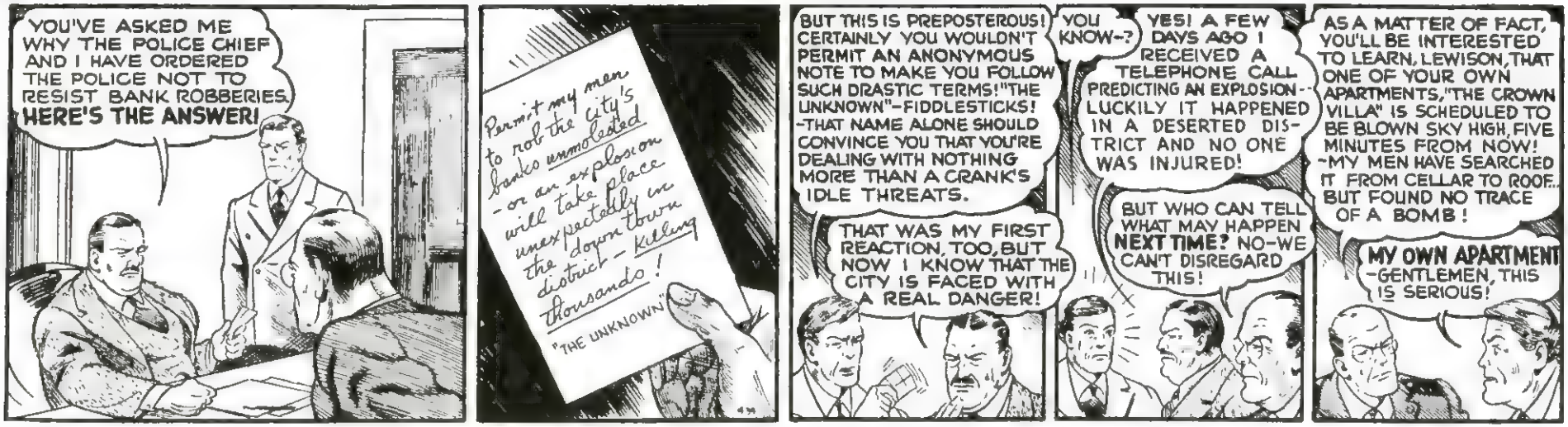
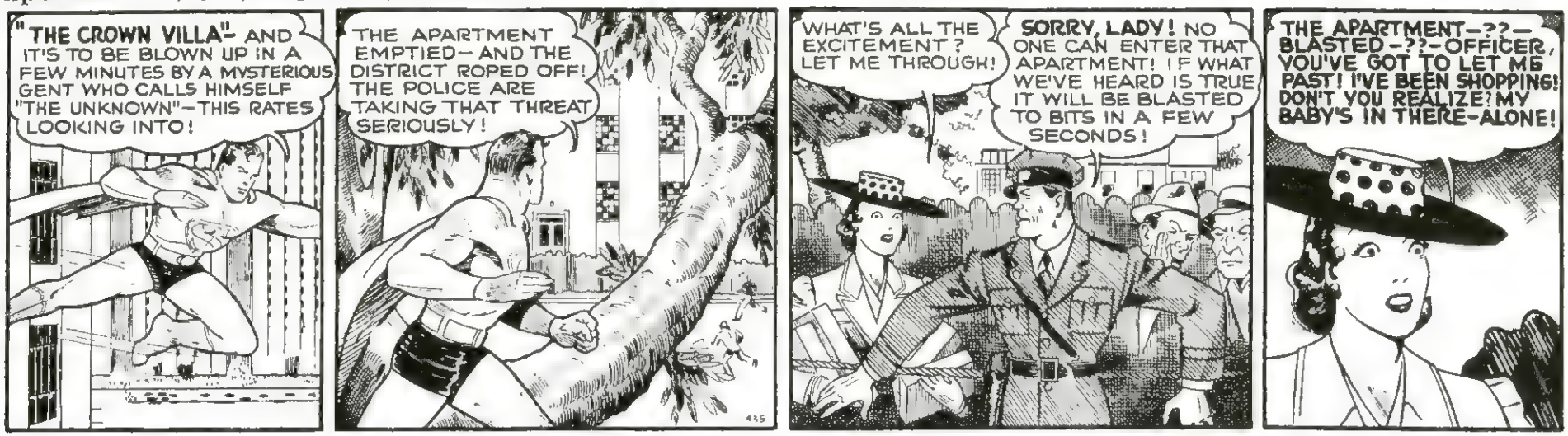
"The Unknown" Threatens

(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Help!!* (Copyright, 1940.)



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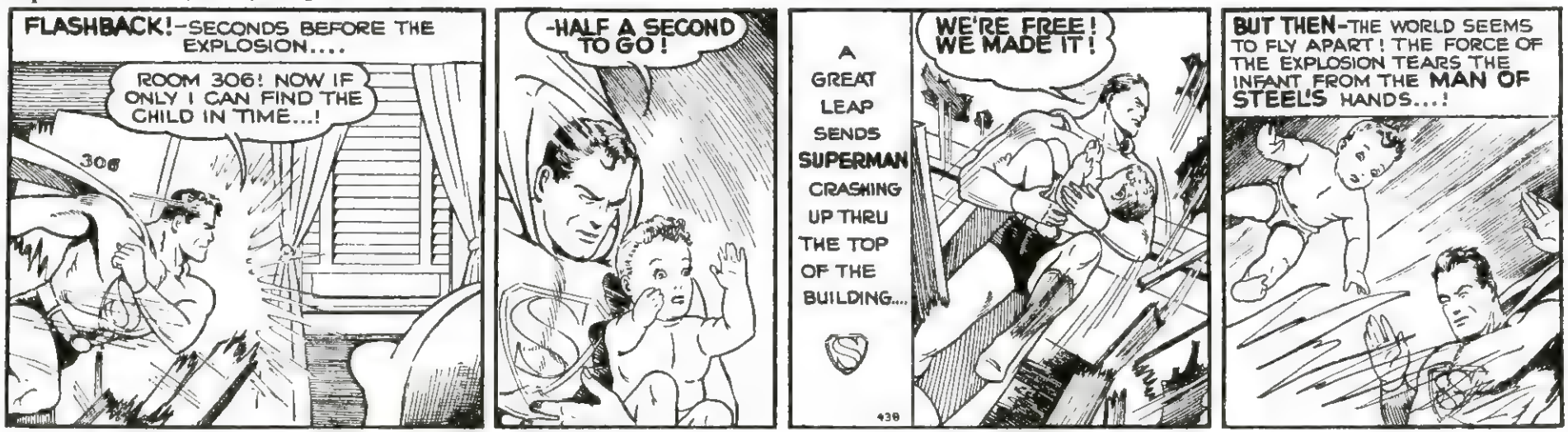
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *"The Unknown" Strikes!* (Copyright, 1940.)

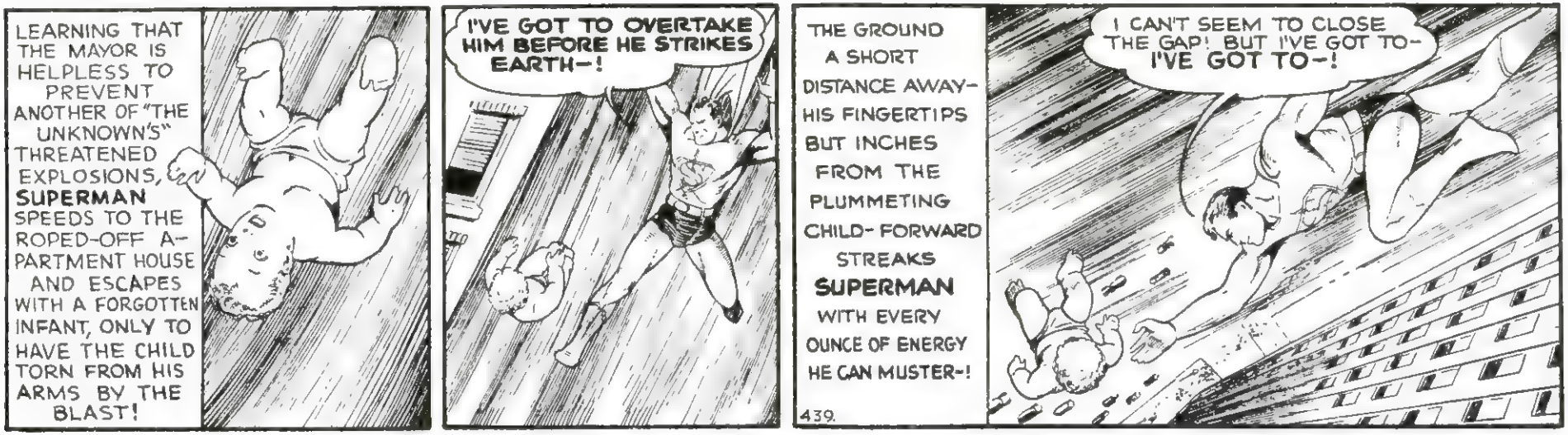
Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *When Split-Seconds Count!* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Close—That—Gap! —

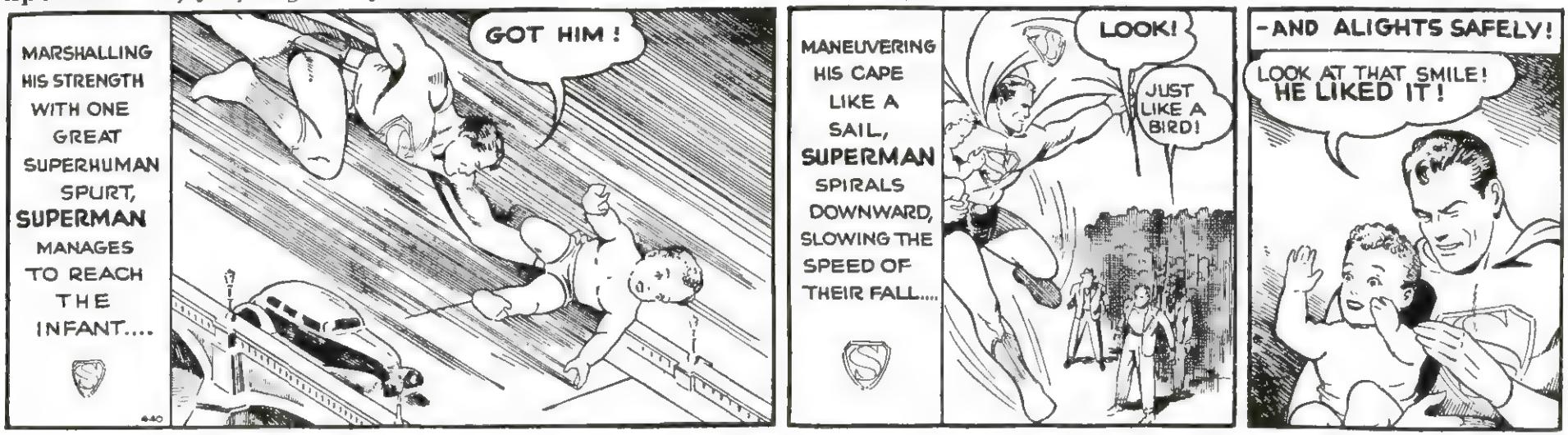
(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Joy-Ride!

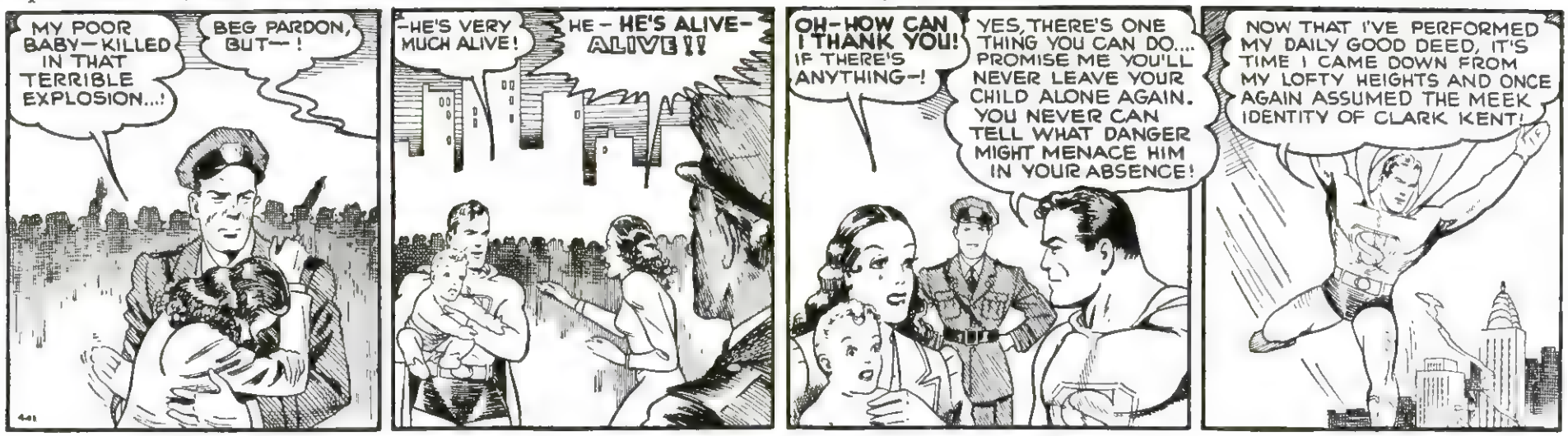
(Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Safe and Sound!

(Copyright, 1940)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Murder at The Daily Planet.

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Makes a Hit

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Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman Steps In

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In Person!

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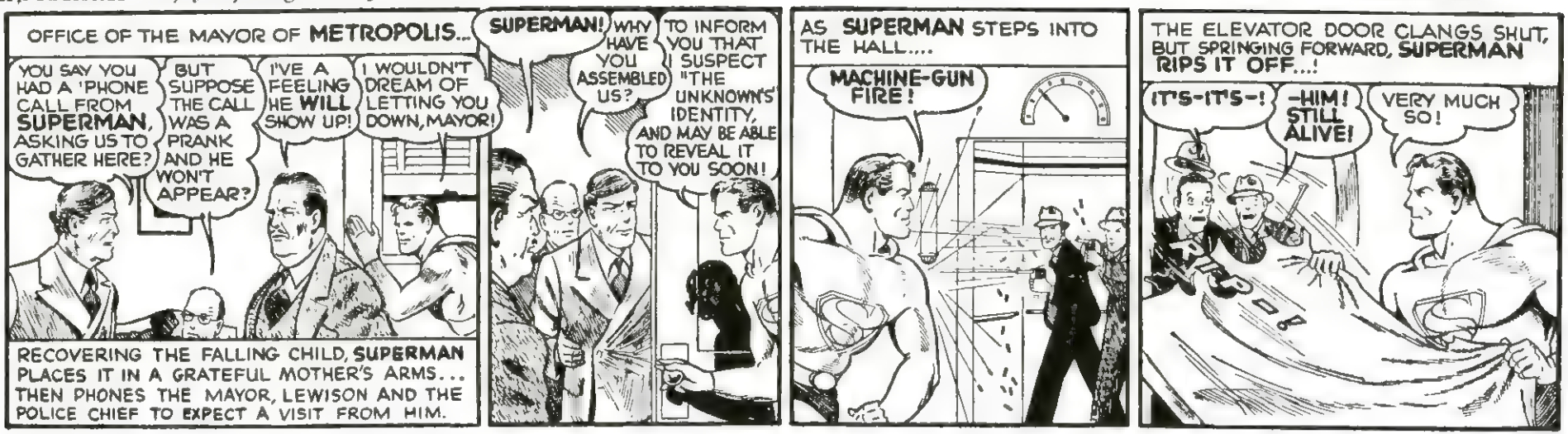
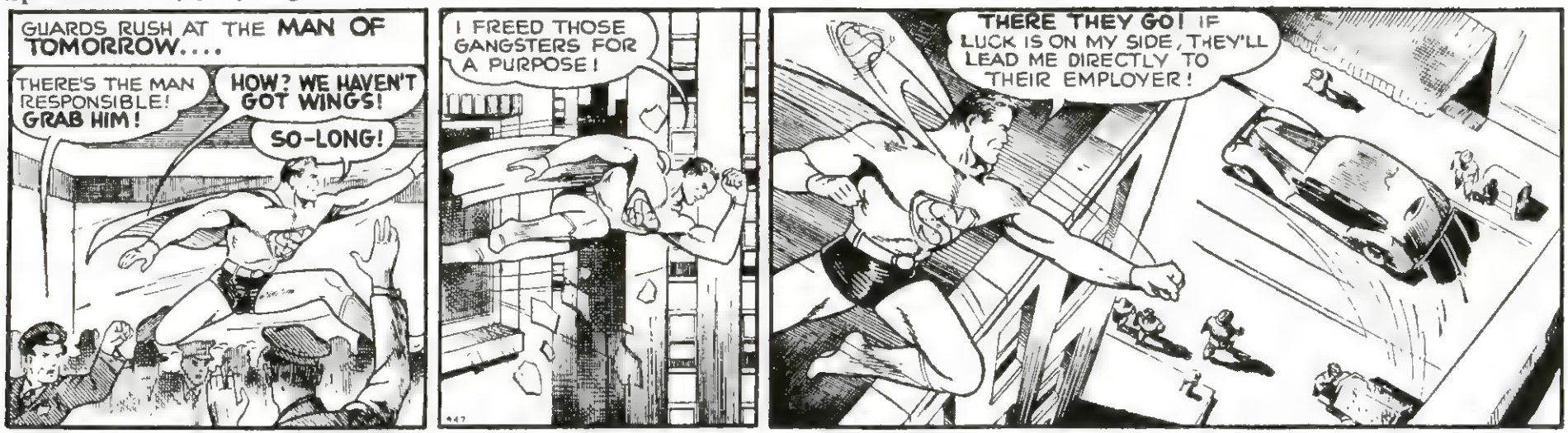


Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

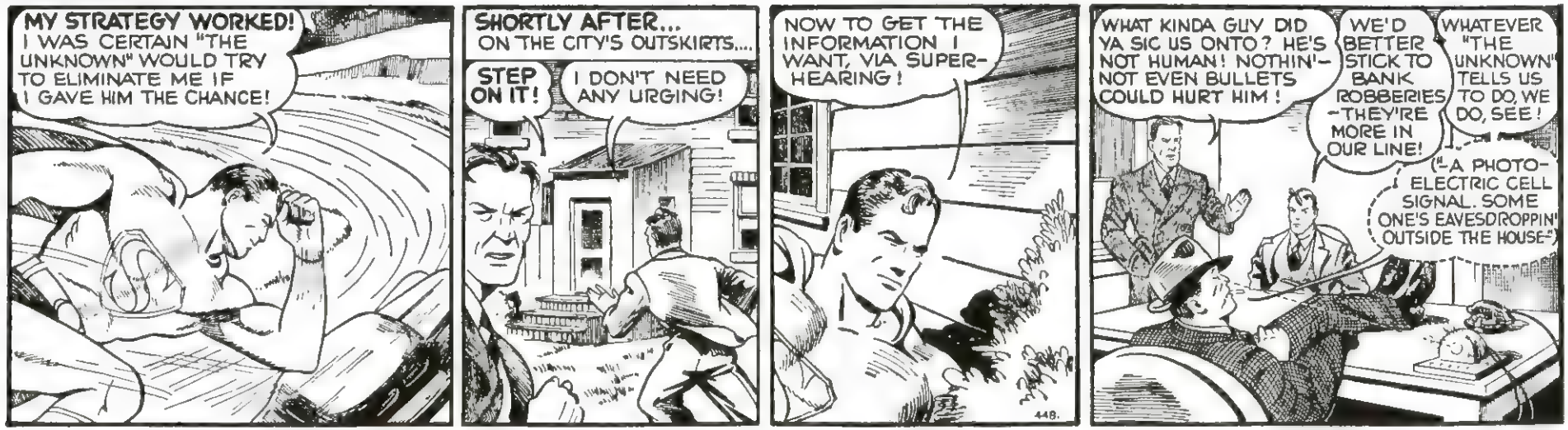
Gang Buster

(Copyright, 1940.)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *According to Plan* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Spotted!* (Copyright, 1940.)



Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Down, But Not Out* (Copyright, 1940)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *The Hitch-Hiker.* (Copyright, 1940)

Superman—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

"Centle" Persuasion.

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Contact!

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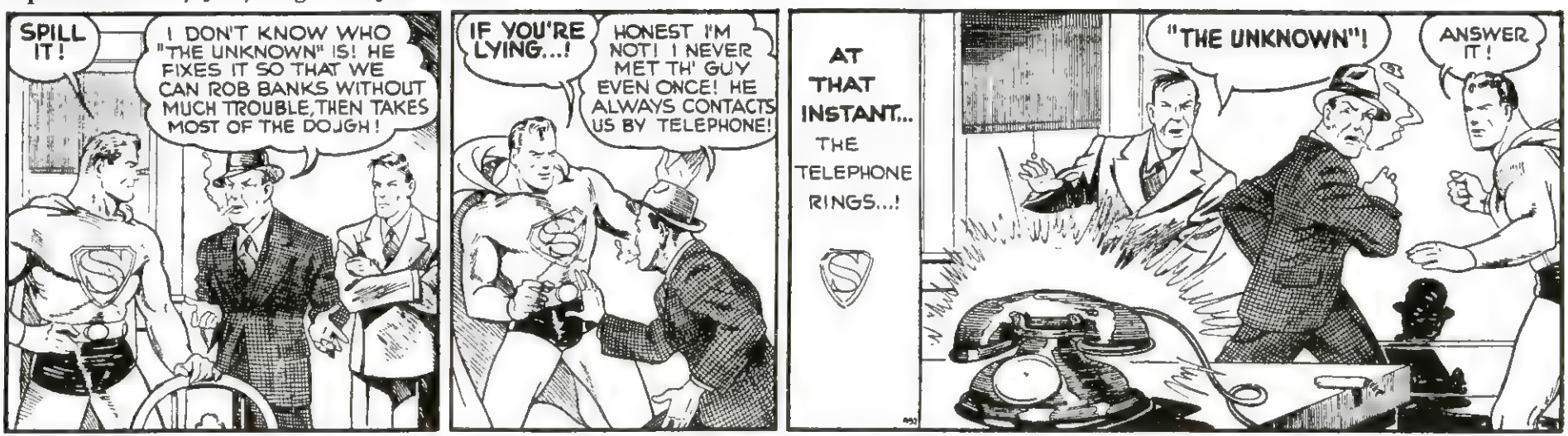

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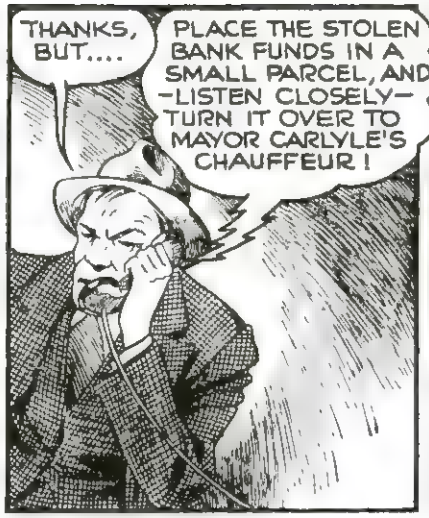
"The Unknown" Speaks!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

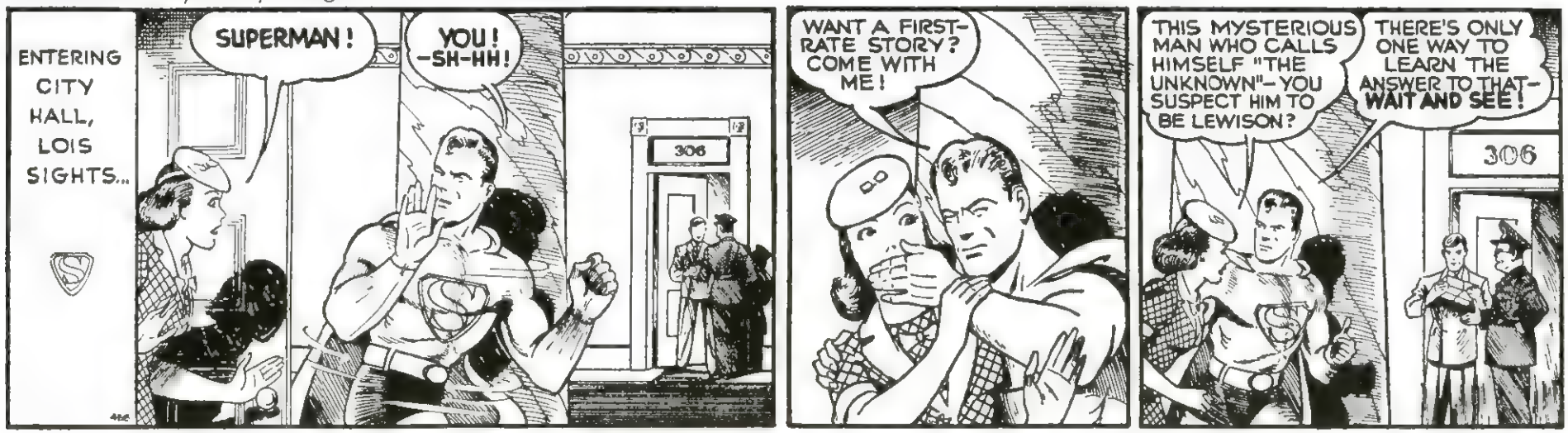
Getting Warm!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Passing the Bucks

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Patience!



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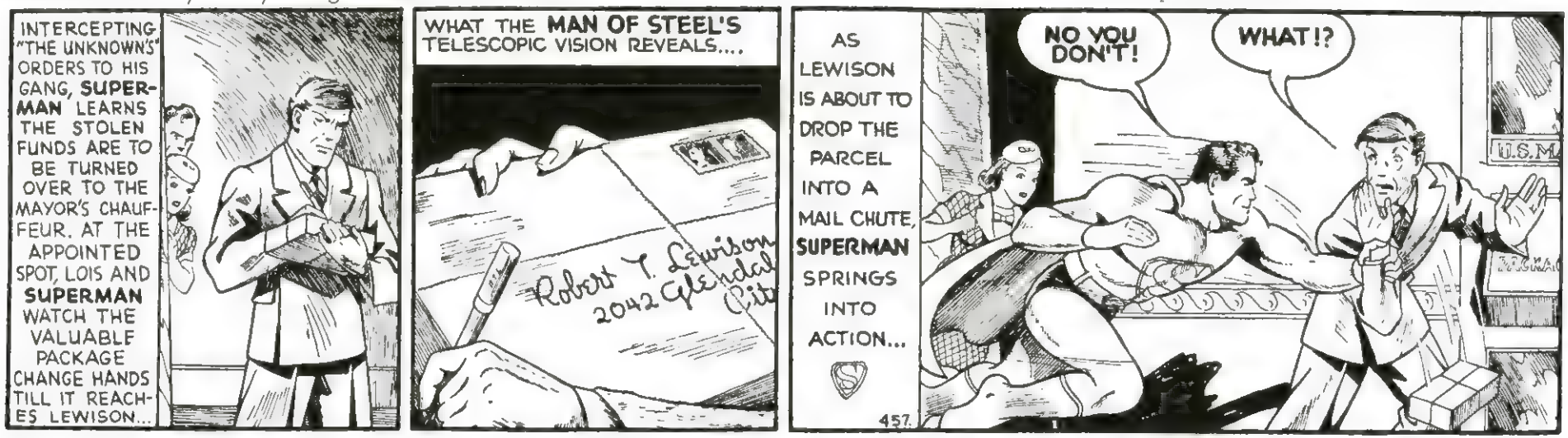
Superman Acts!



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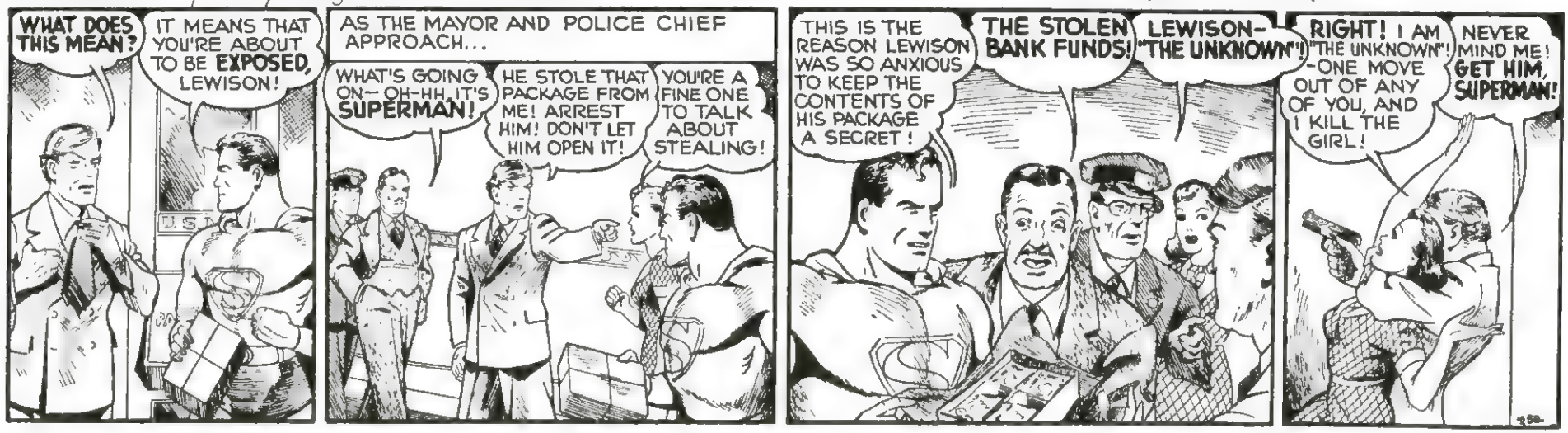
"The Unknown" Unmasked!



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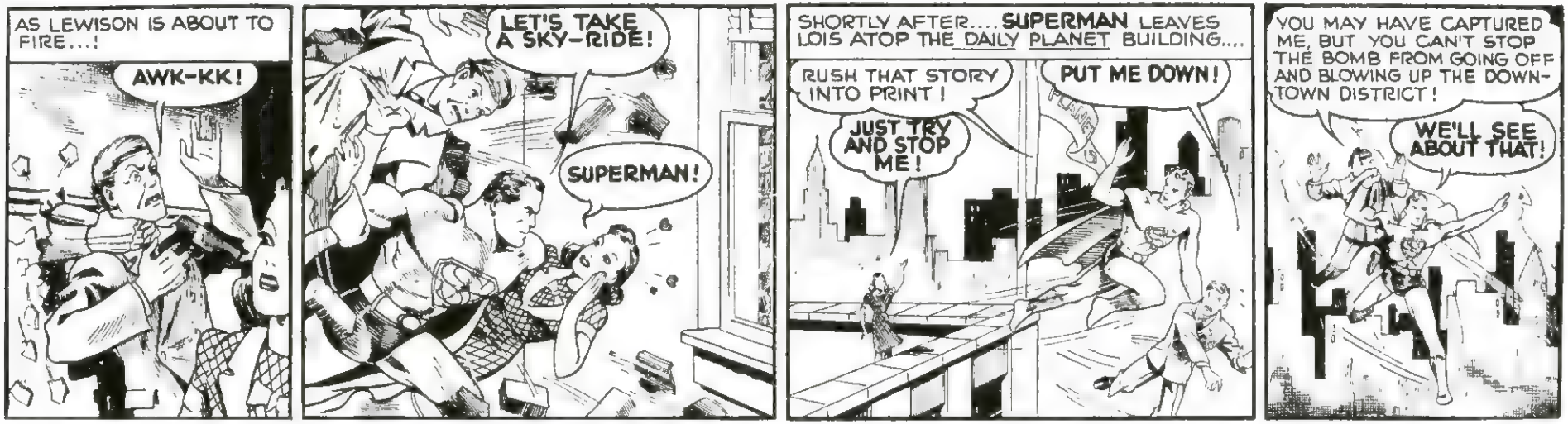
Held at Bay!

Superman—*Man of Action*



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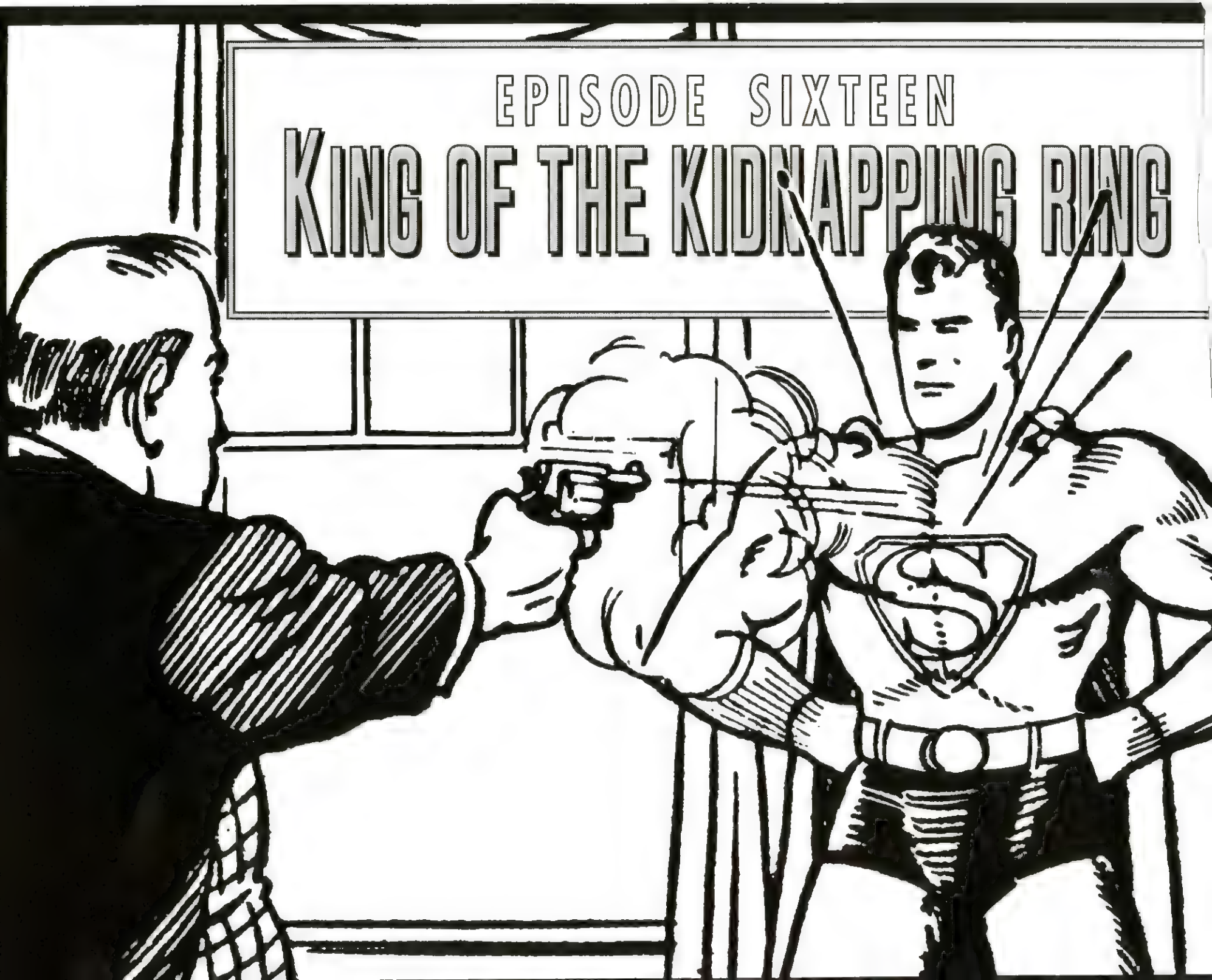
Lives at Stake!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Scores Again!

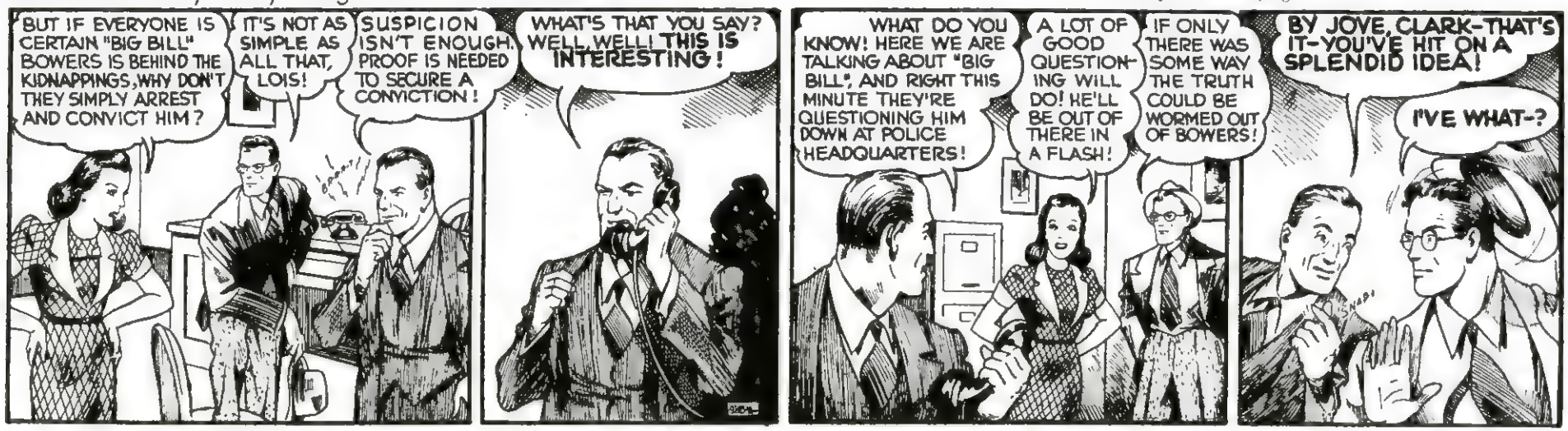

EPISODE SIXTEEN
KING OF THE KIDNAPPING RING

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Crime Wave!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Wishful Thinking.



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Objection Overruled!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

One Tramp Coming Up!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hold Everything!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Arm of the Law

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Two Is Company.

UPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

That's Different!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Cellmates

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

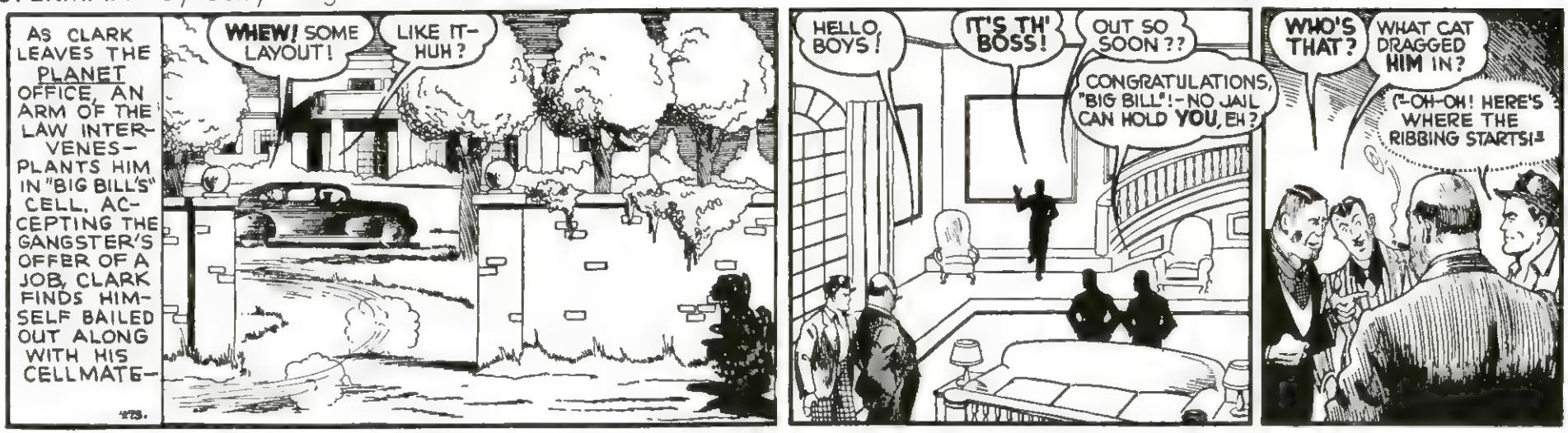
Hired!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Some Class!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Homecoming.



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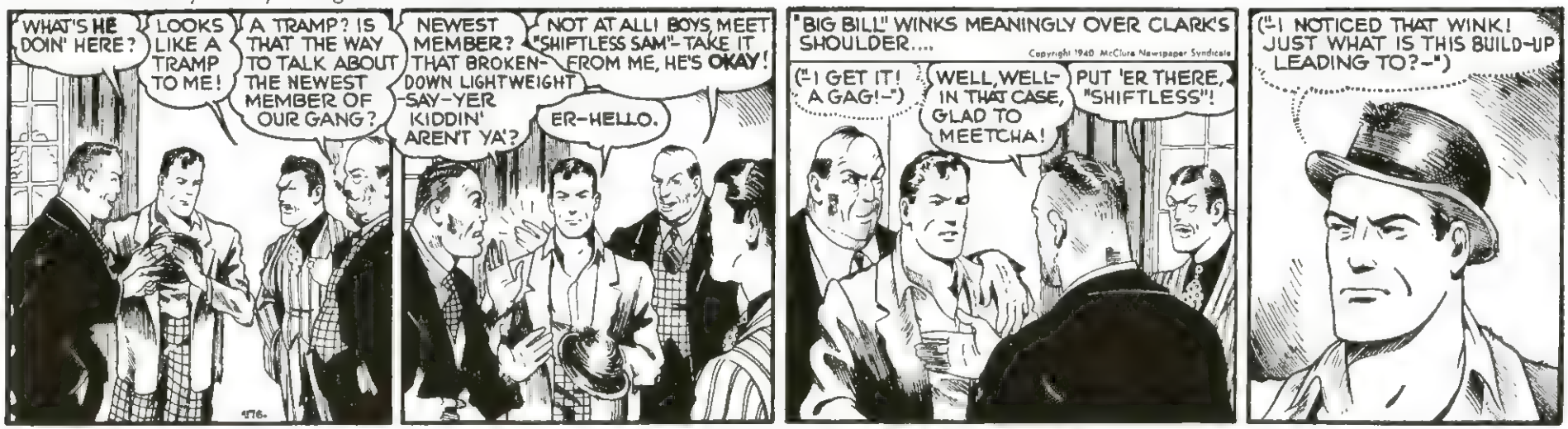
Sudden Popularity.



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Clothes Conscious!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Off With the Old

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

What Would You Do?

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Predicament

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Saved by "Big Bill"

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Fall Guy

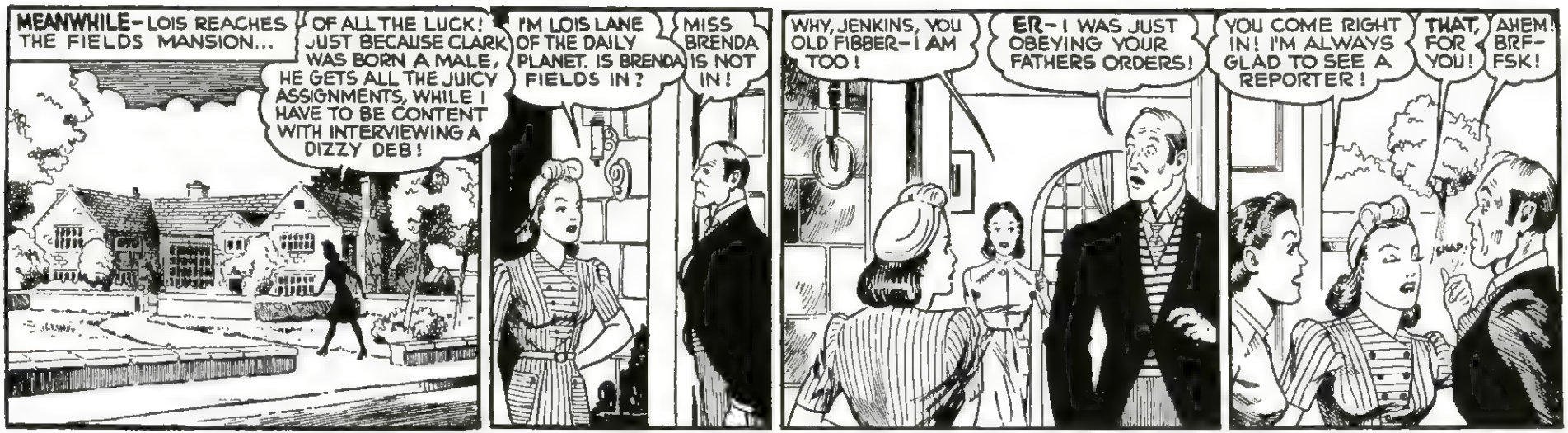
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Nice People!

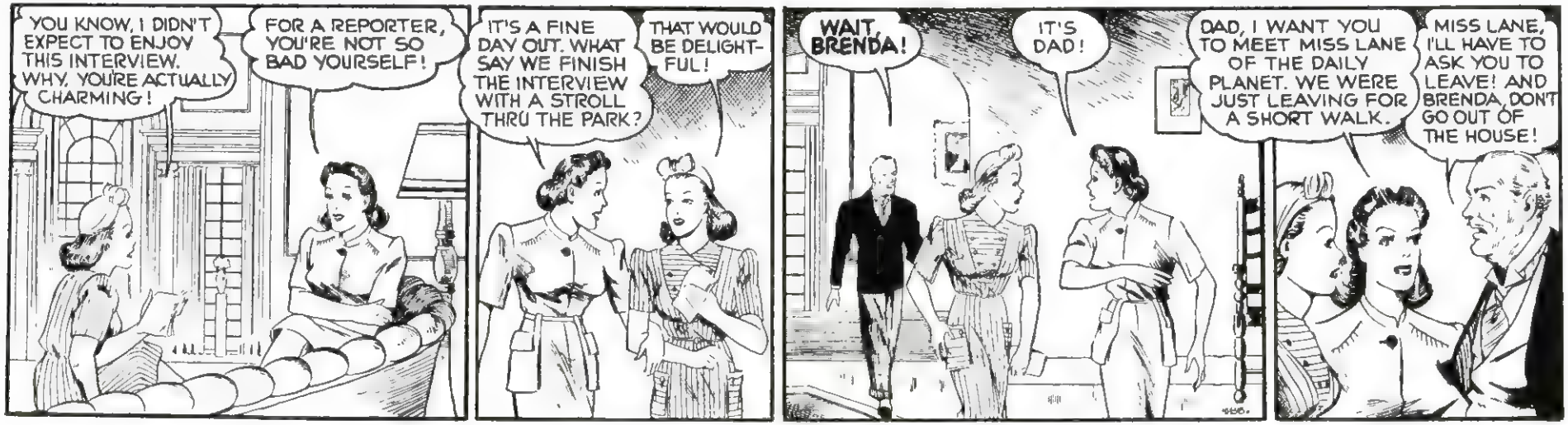
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

It Takes All Kinds

Superman—*At Home to the Press* —*By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster*



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Orders Are Orders*

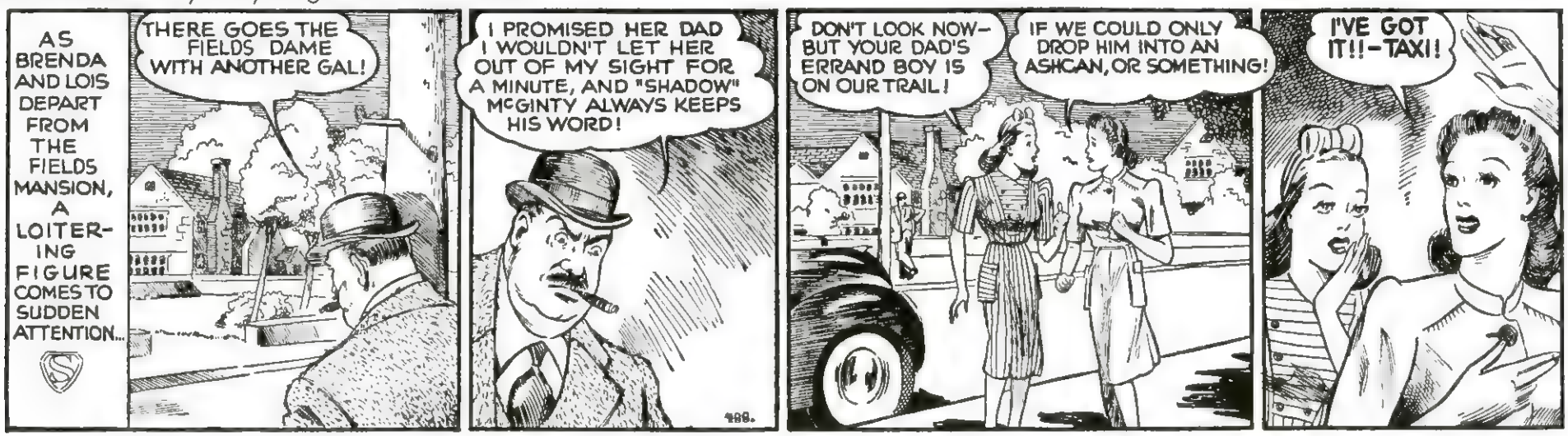


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Not a Home Girl

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Three's a Crowd



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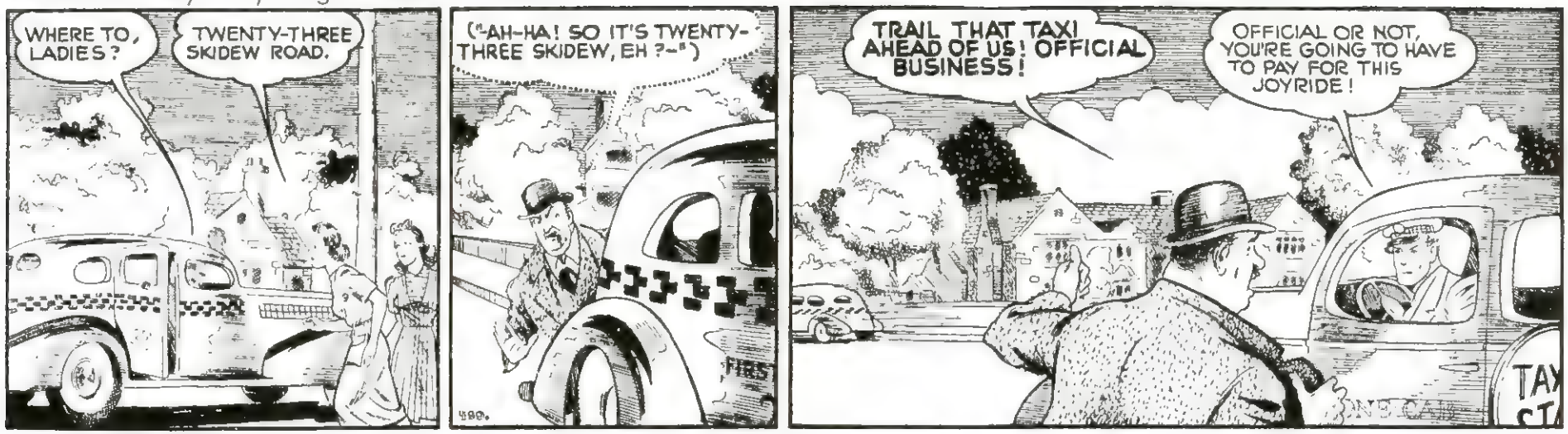
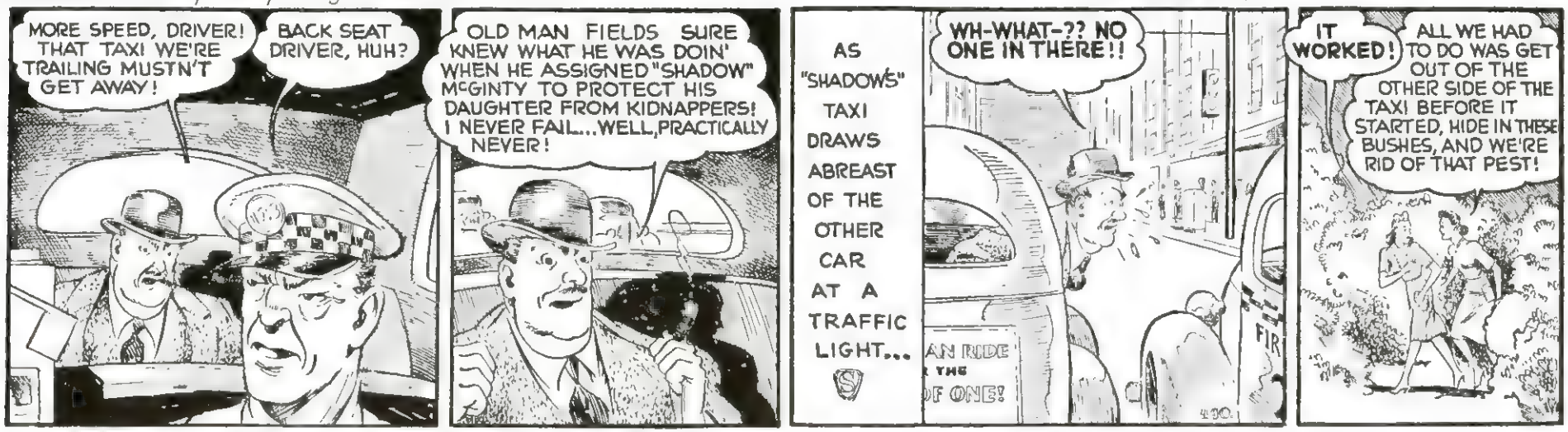
McGinty On the Job



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hide and Seek.



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Danger! Men at Work

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

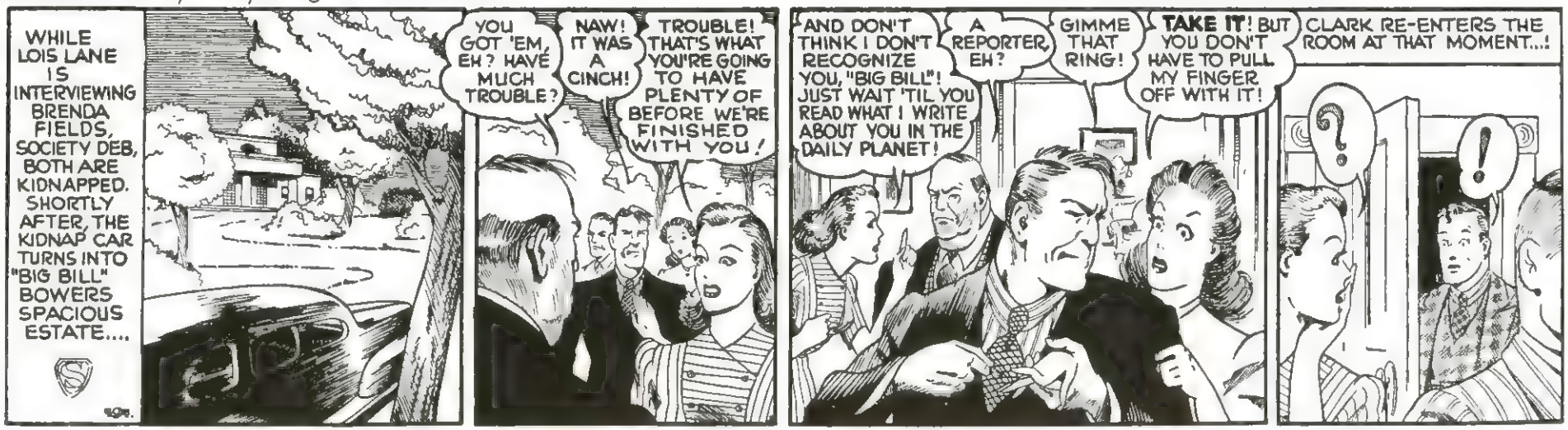
Snatched!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Father Knew Best

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Fancy Meeting You Here!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

While There's Clark—There's Hope!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Ring Around a Ransom

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Unfair Exchange

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

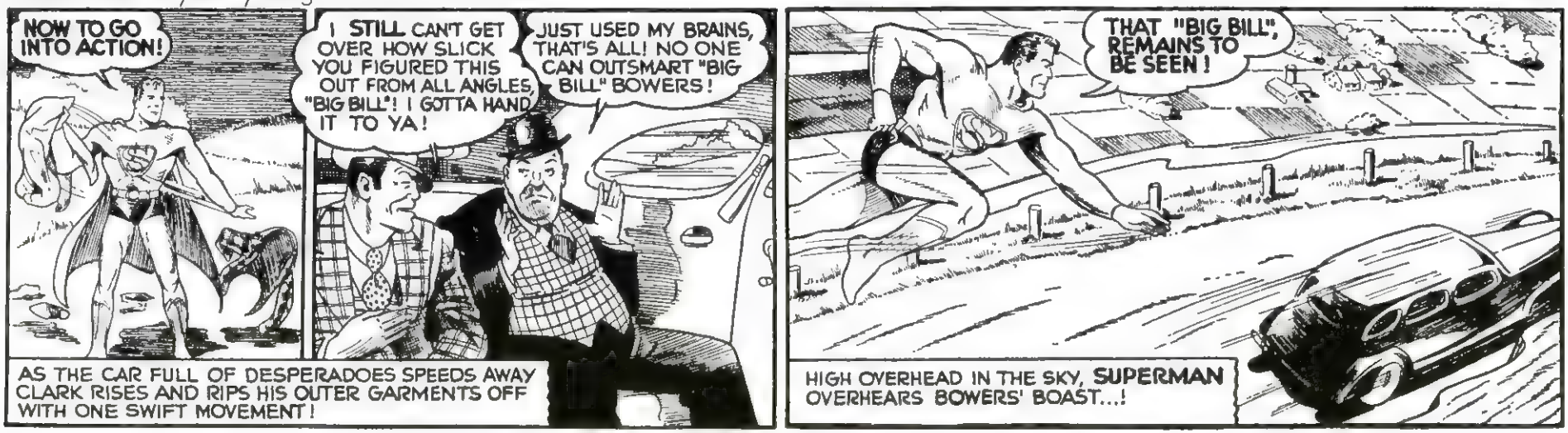
Fall Guy's Reward

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Once Over Lightly

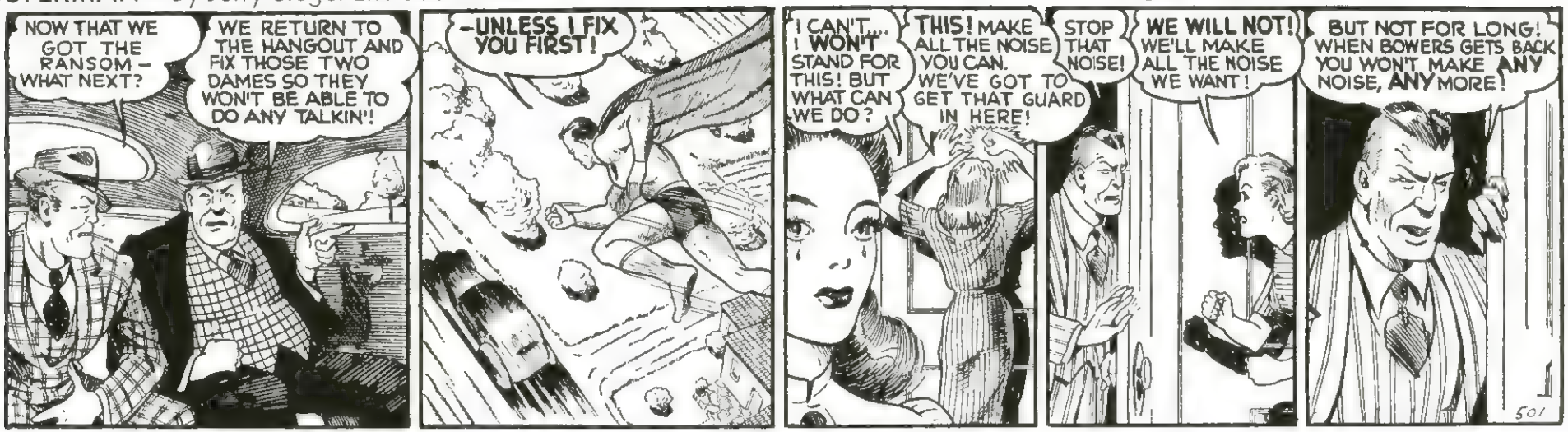
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Time Will Tell



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Figure It Out

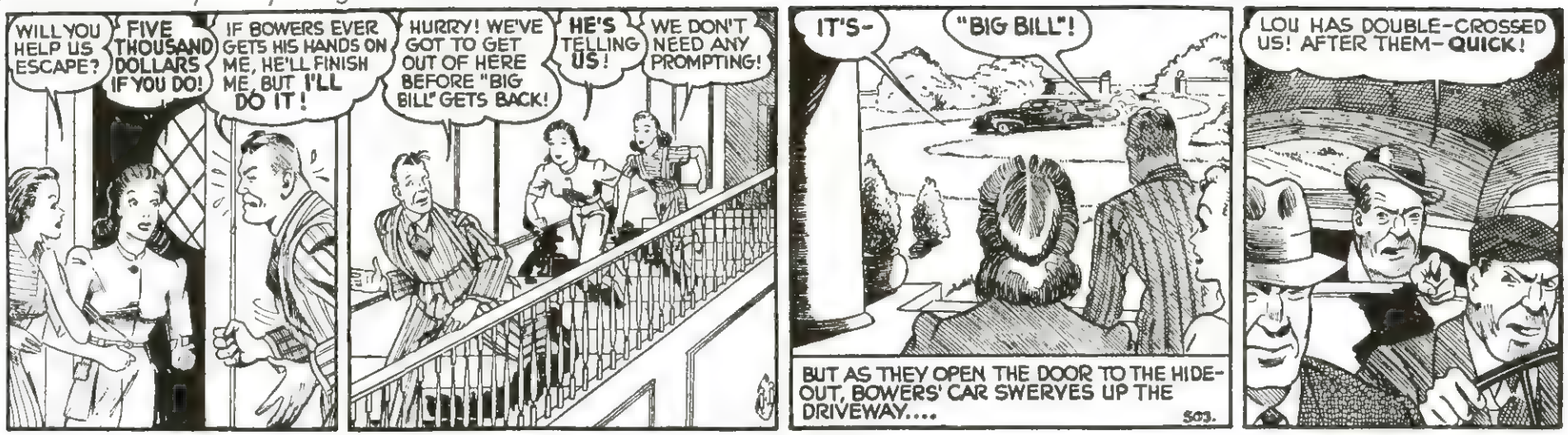


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Here Comes the Bribe

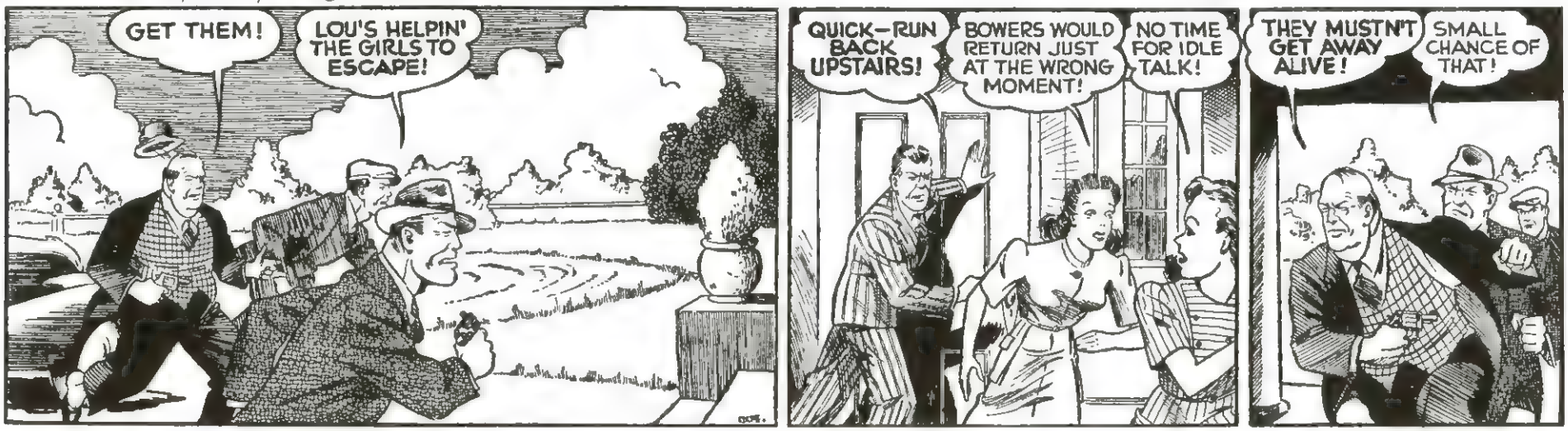
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Too Late!



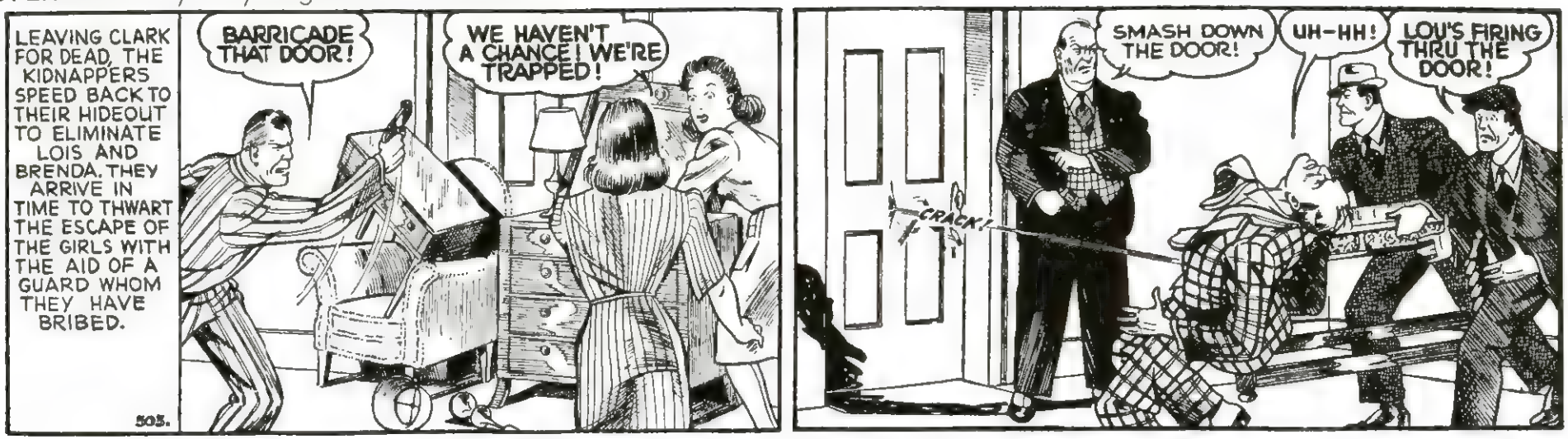
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Trapped!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Last Stand



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

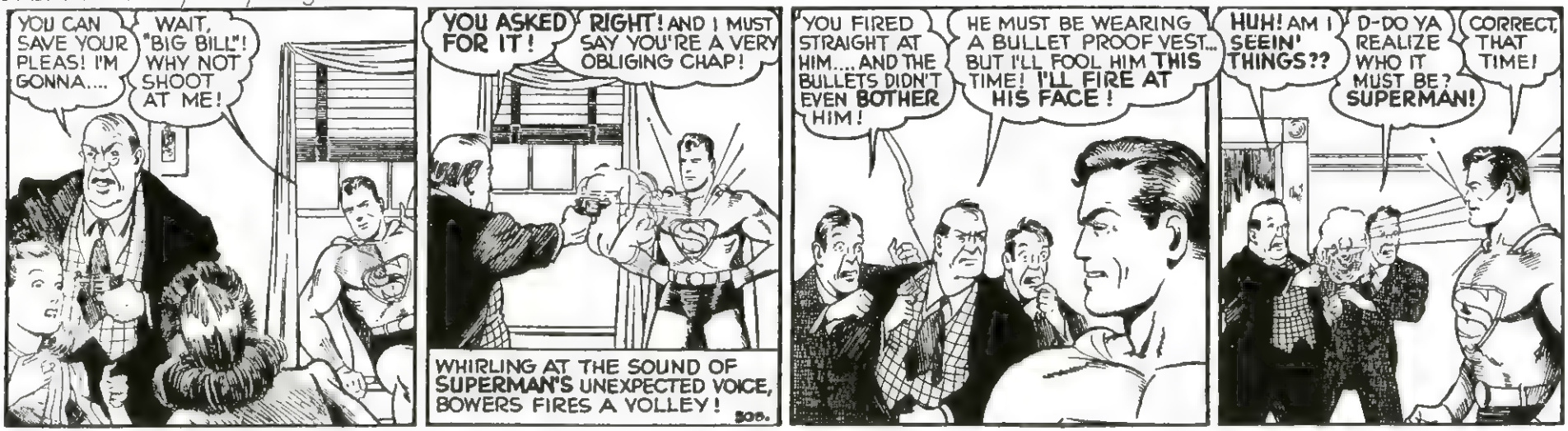
Leave It to "Big Bill"

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

X Marks the Spot

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

In Person!



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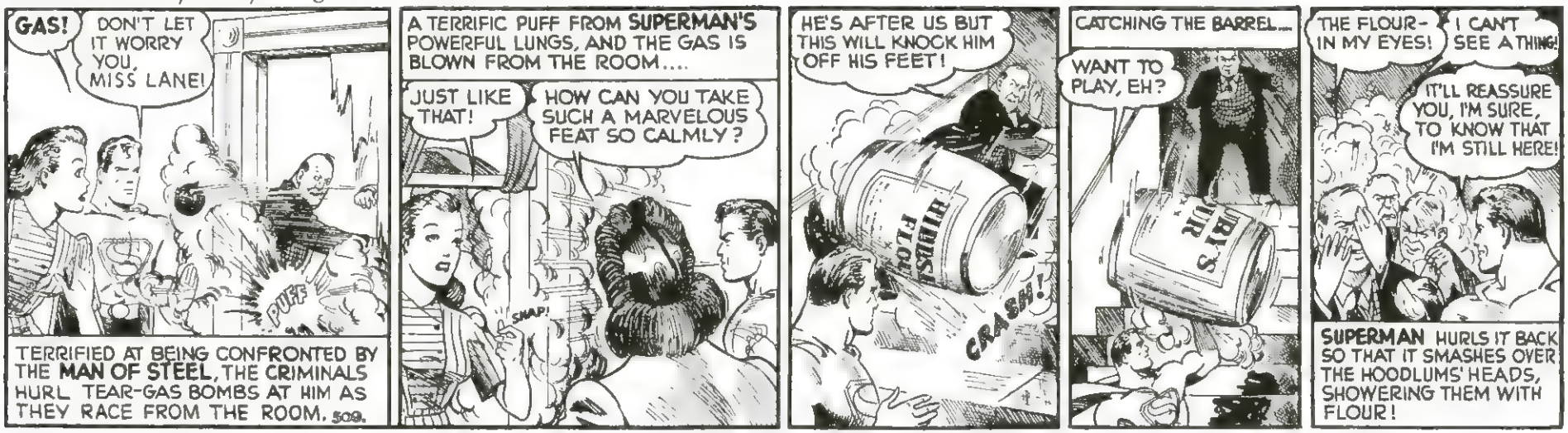
Just a Playboy.



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Scooped Again.

EPISODE
SEVENTEEN
THE HOODED
SABOTEUR

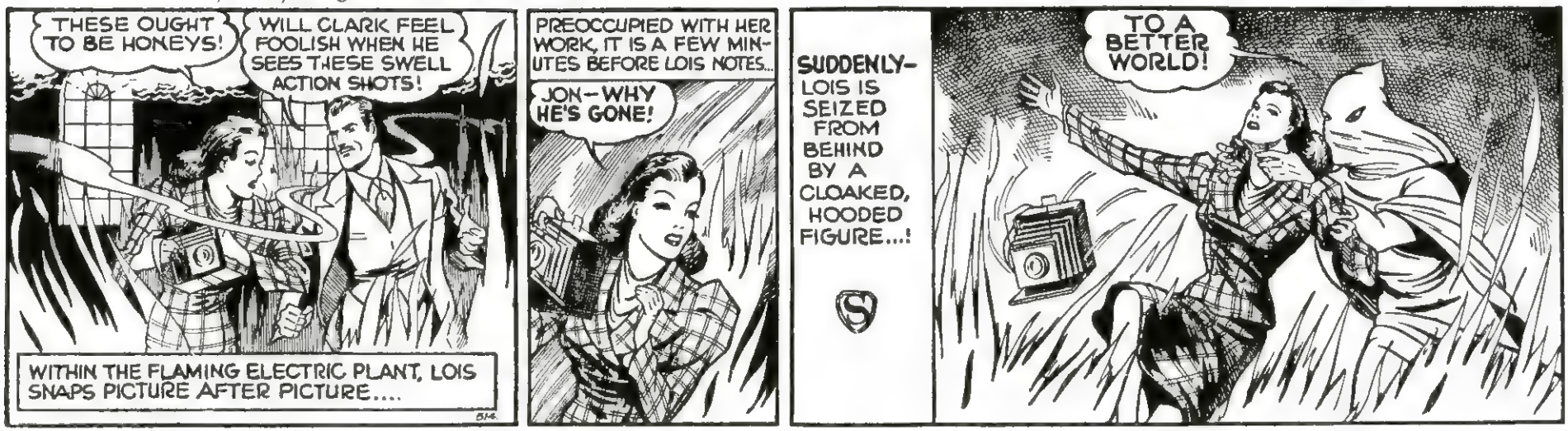
Superman—*Three's a Crowd* —*By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster*

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Impasse.*

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Crashing the Gate.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



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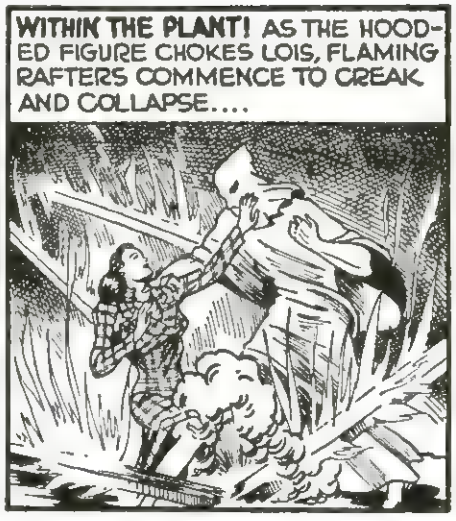
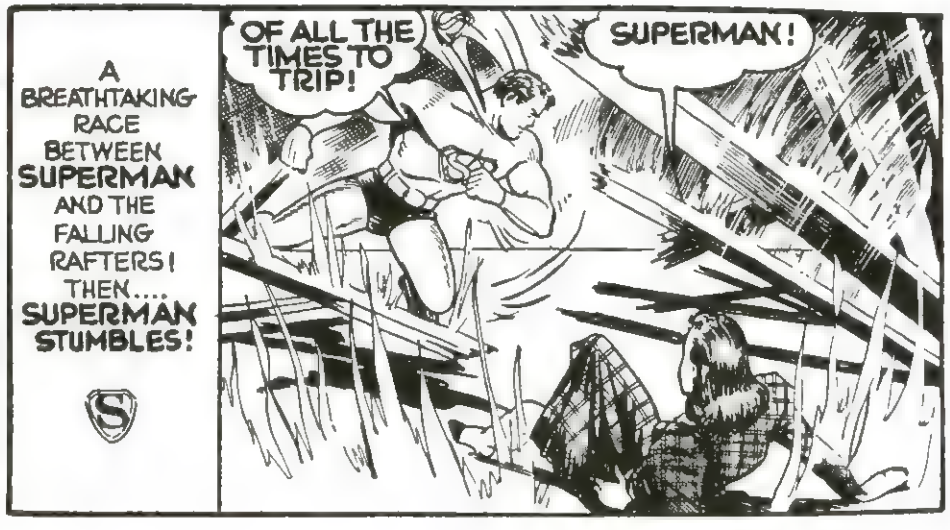
Creeping Death!



SUPERMAN Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Oops!

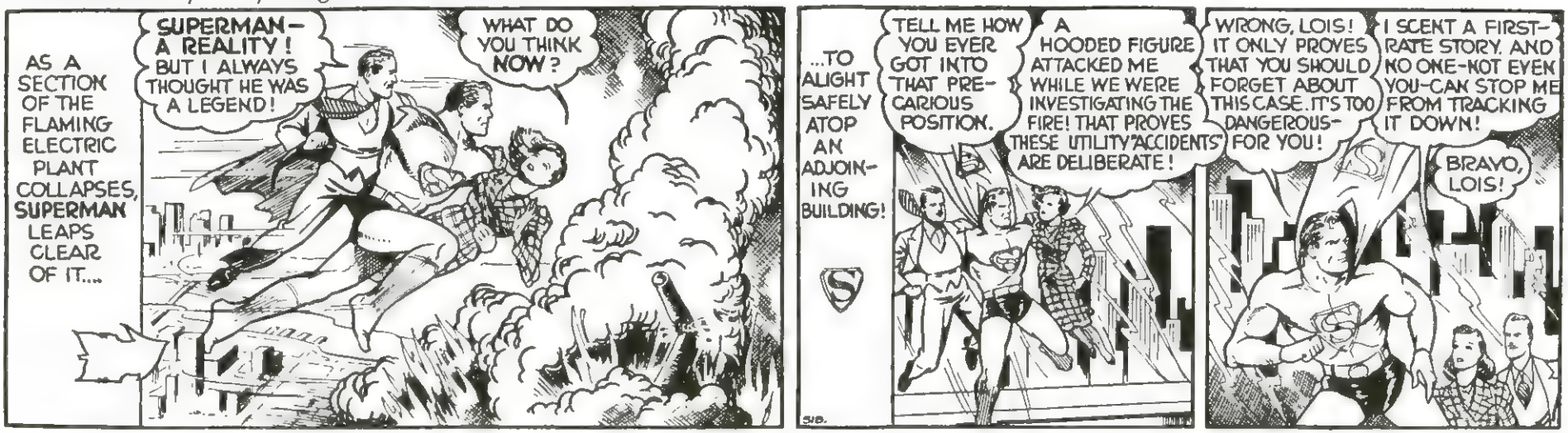


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siege and Joe Shuster

What—No Skeleton?

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Red-Hot Scent!



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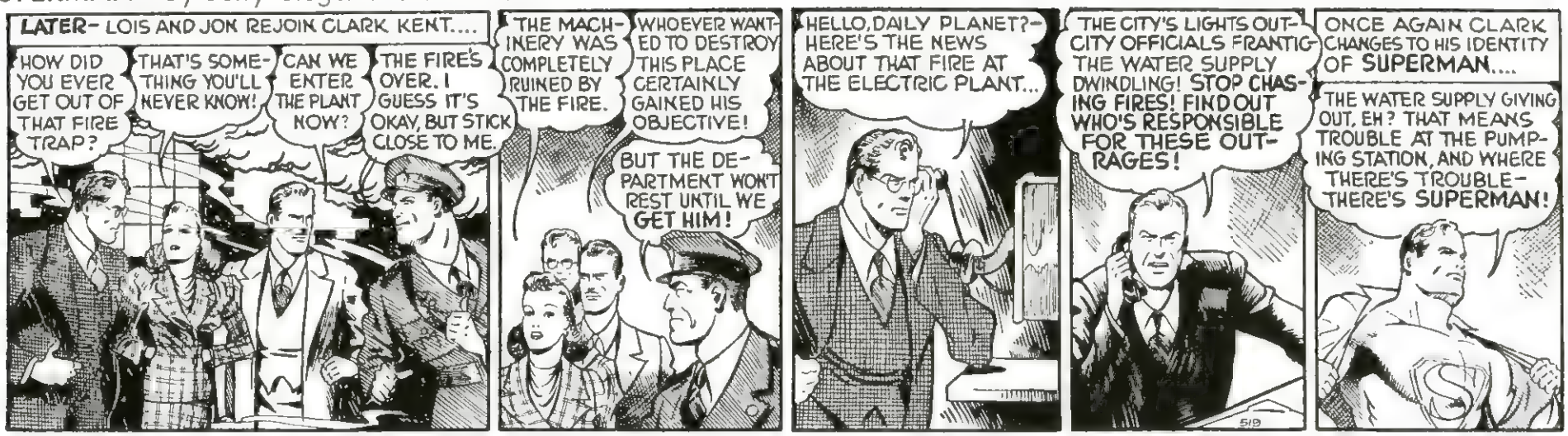
He Gets Around



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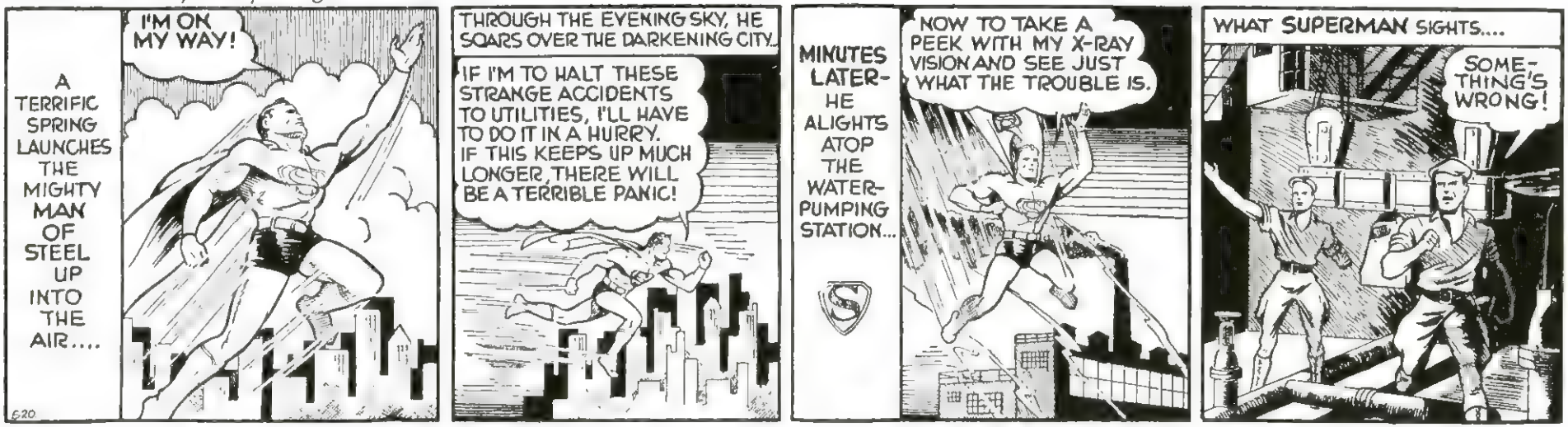
Consternation at the Station



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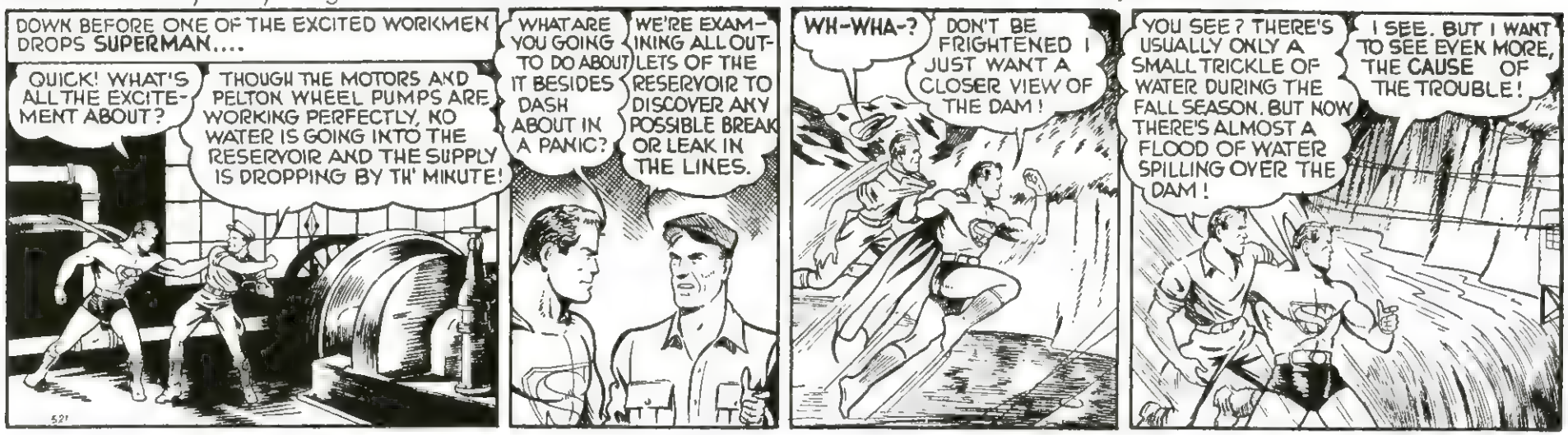
Information, Please



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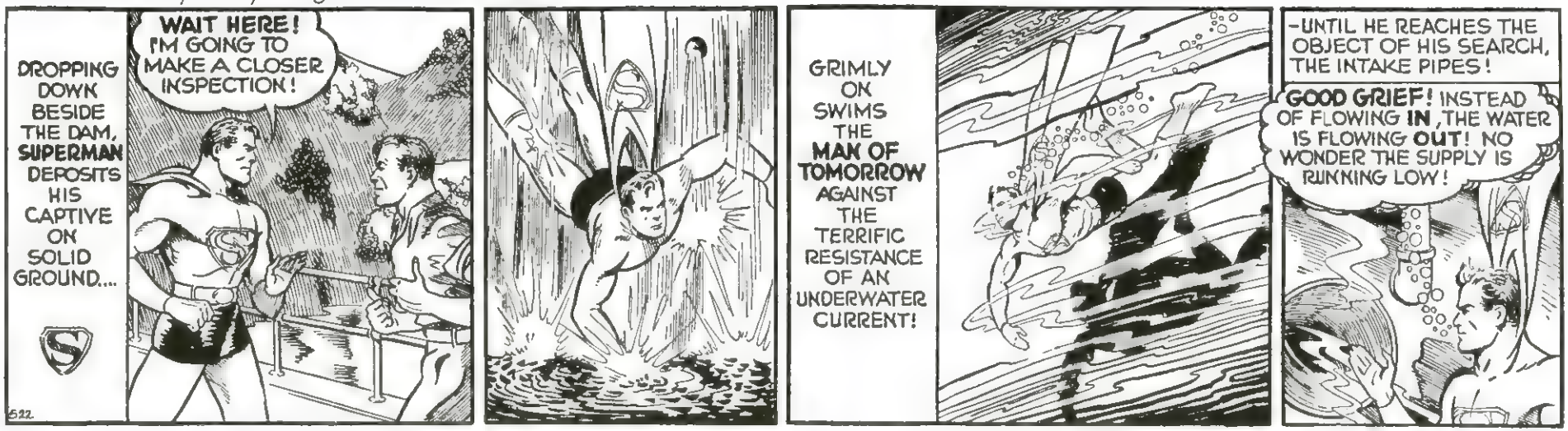
Discovery



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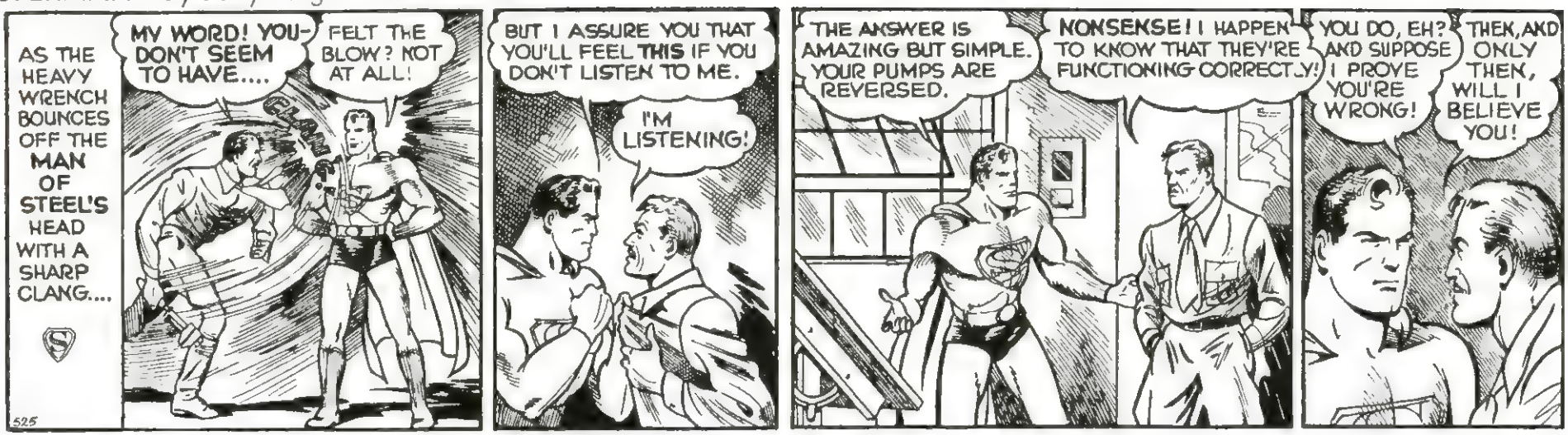
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

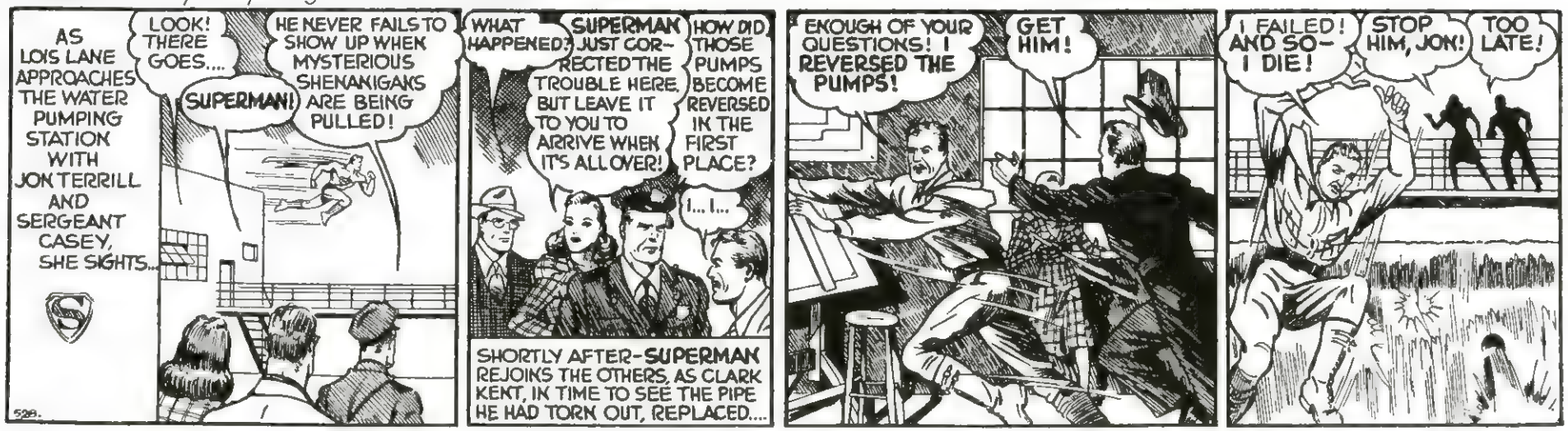
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

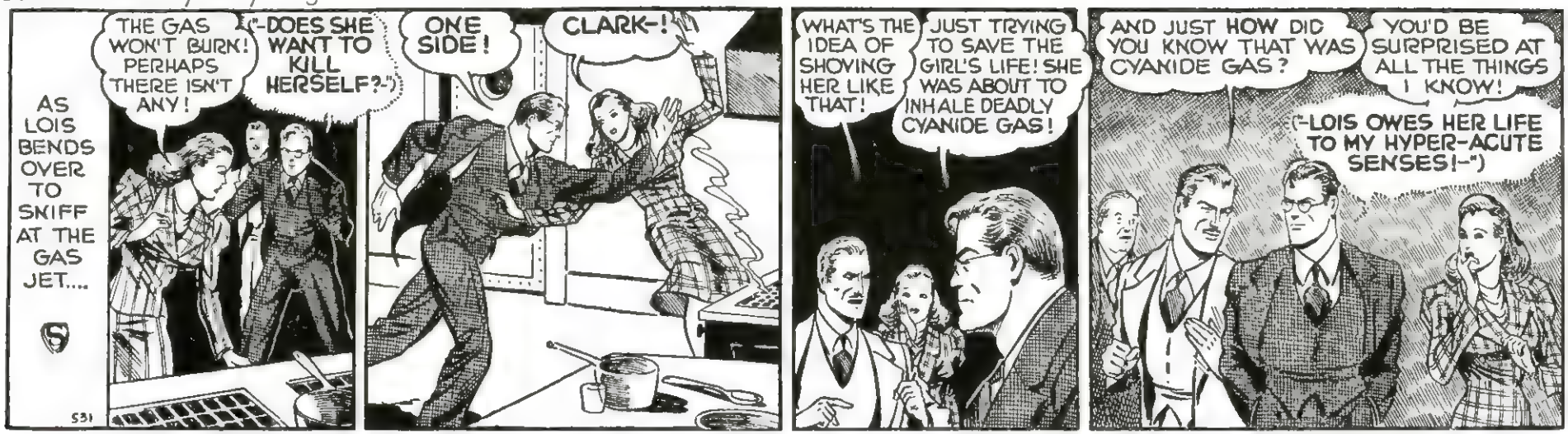
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



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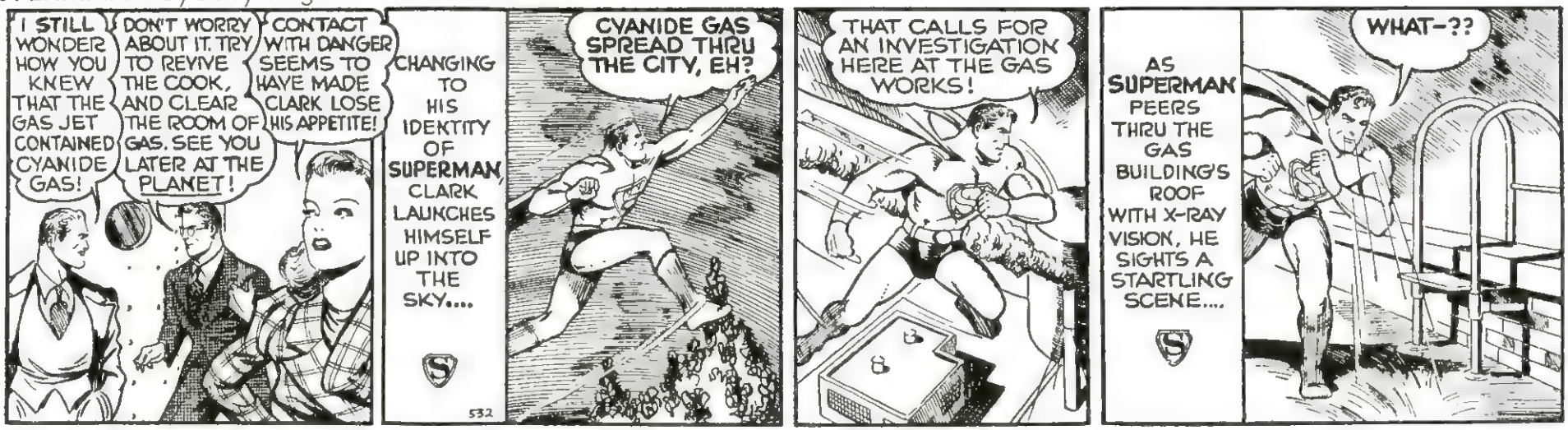

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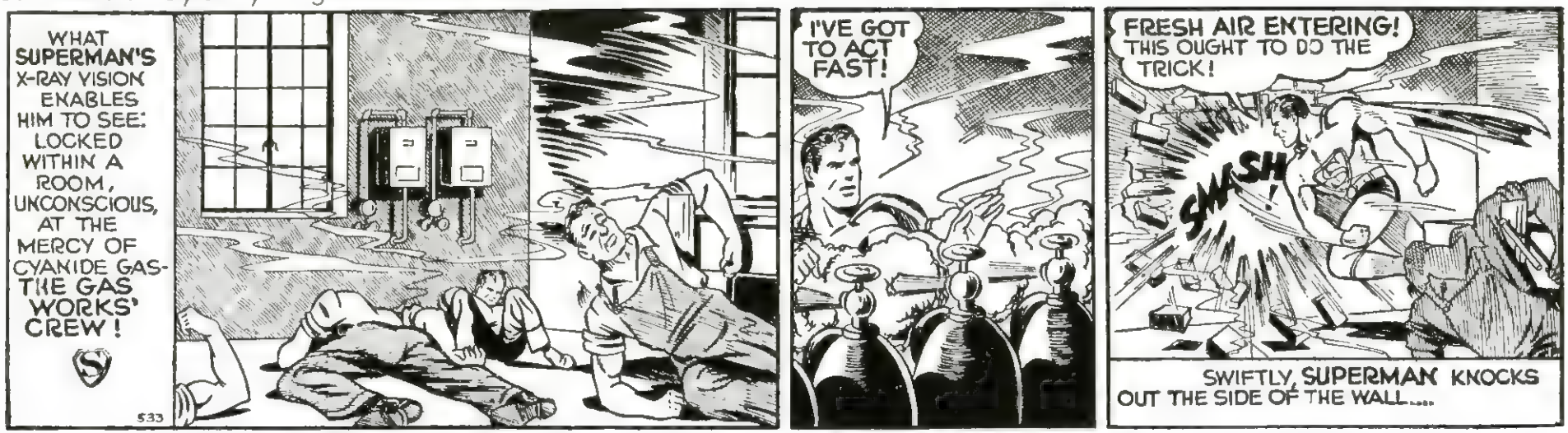

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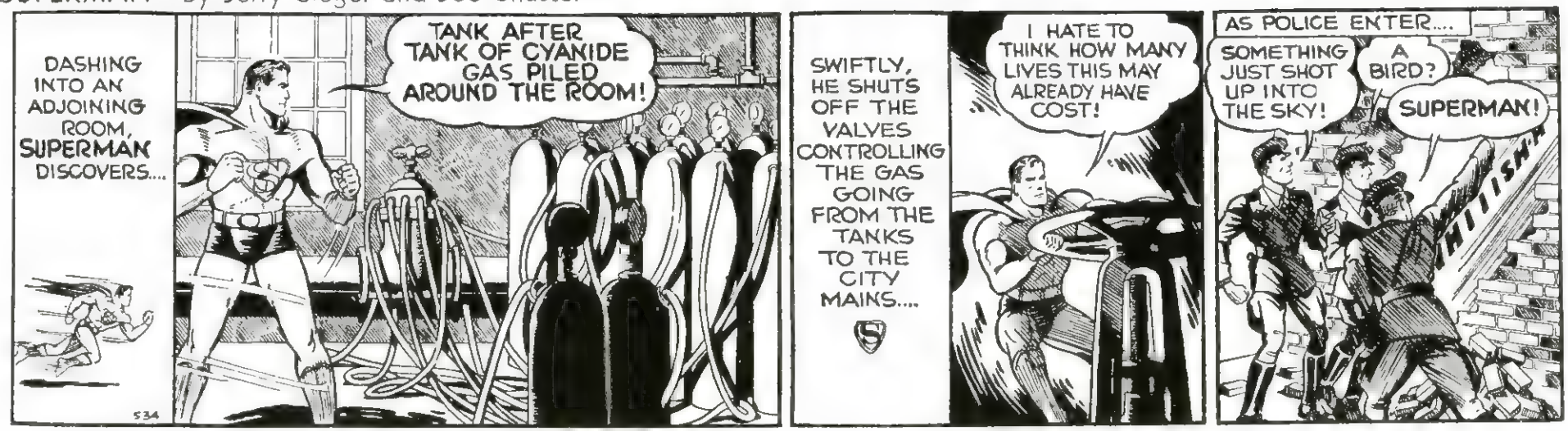
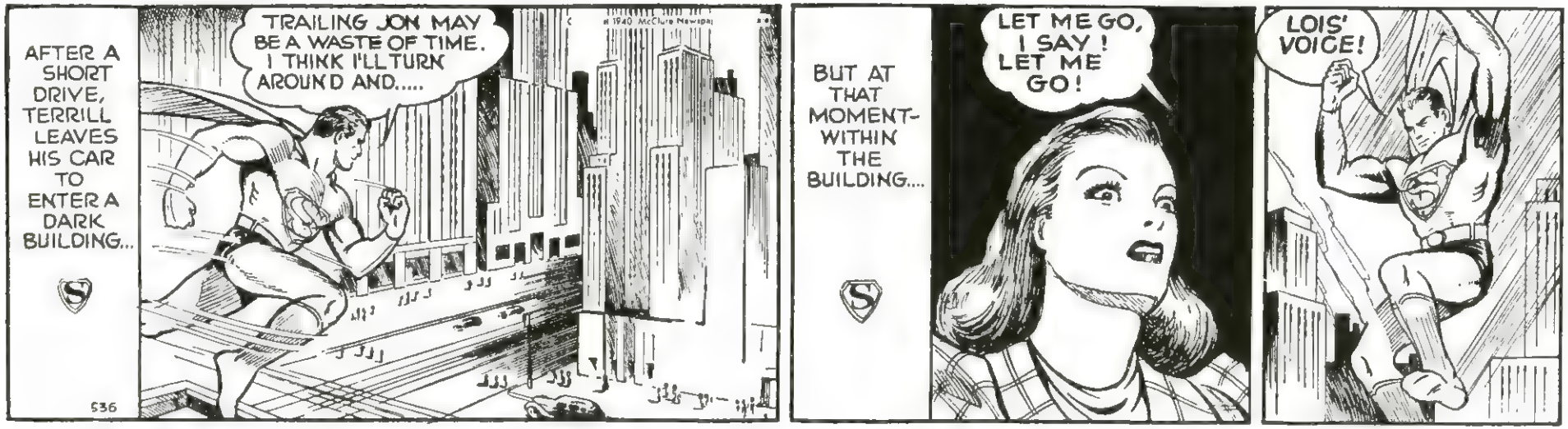


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman Takes No Chances.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois in Danger!

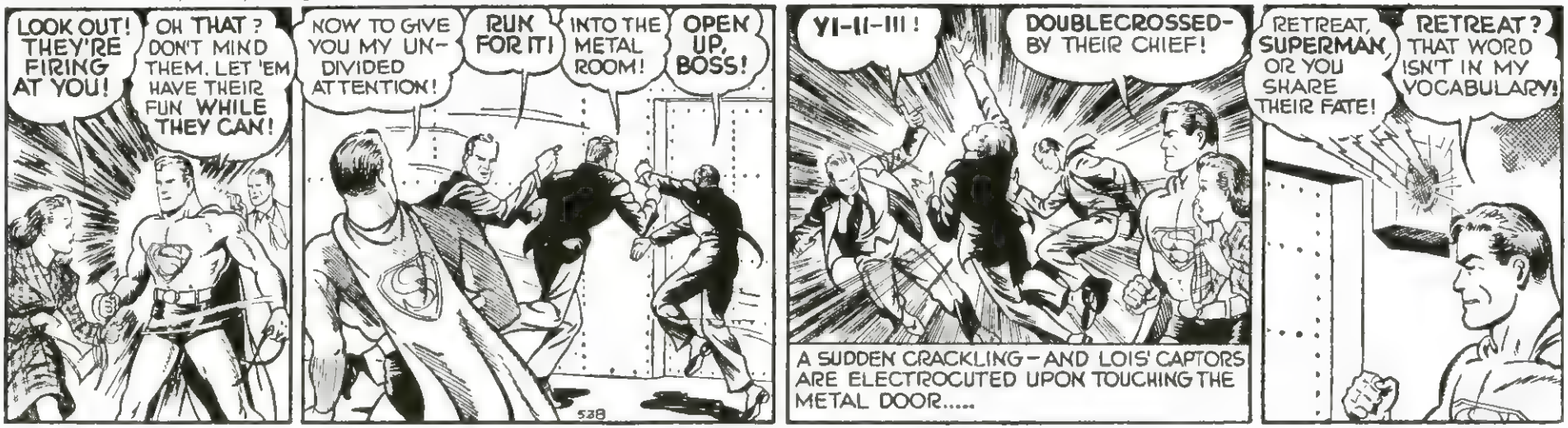


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Fair Warning

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Double-Cross.



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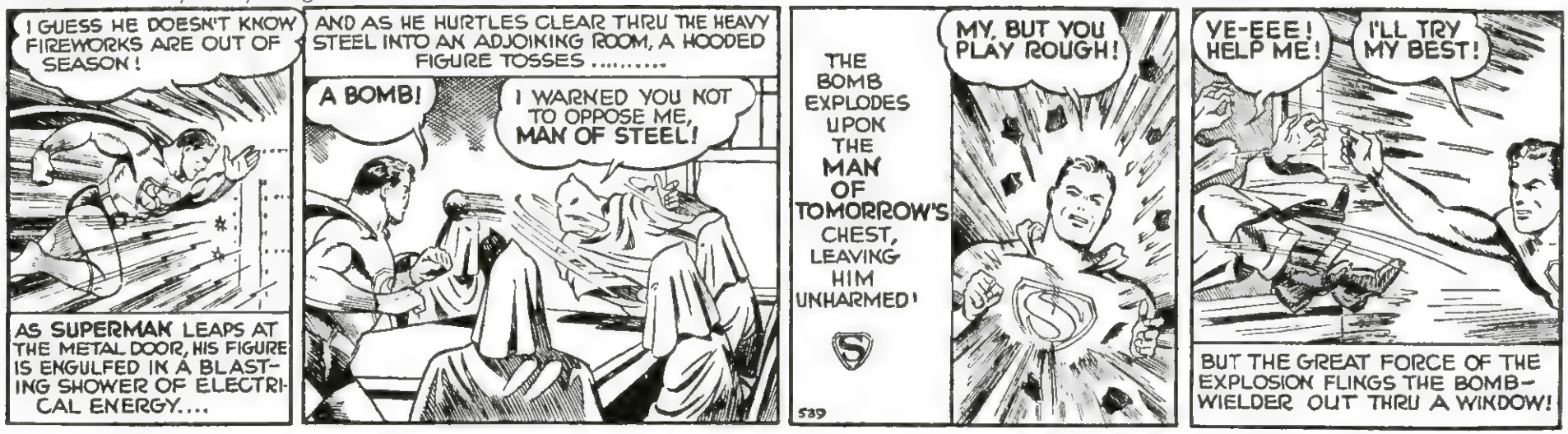
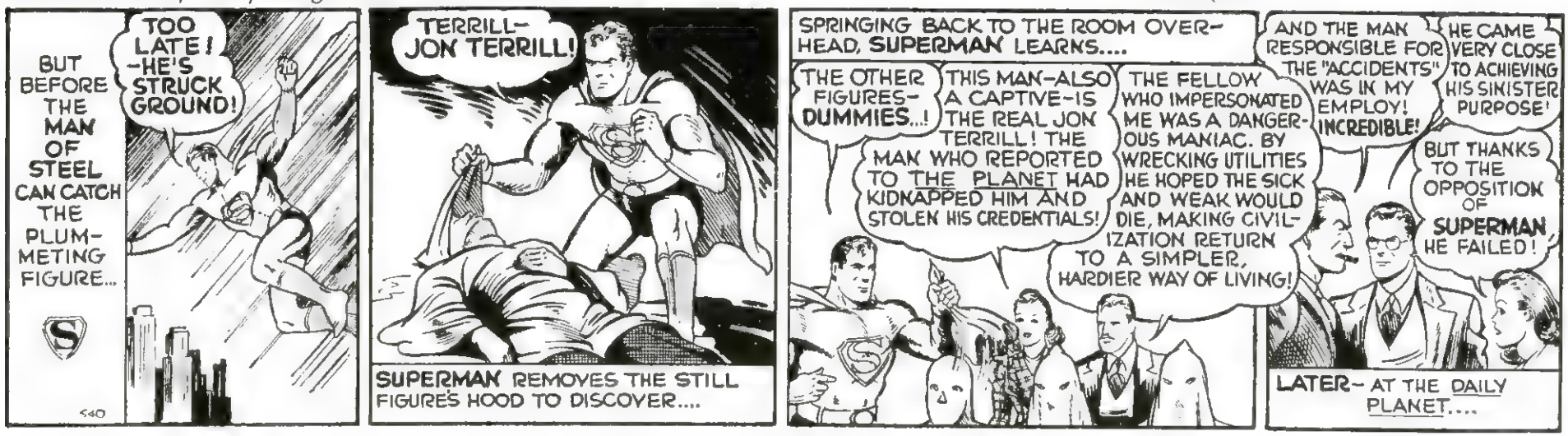
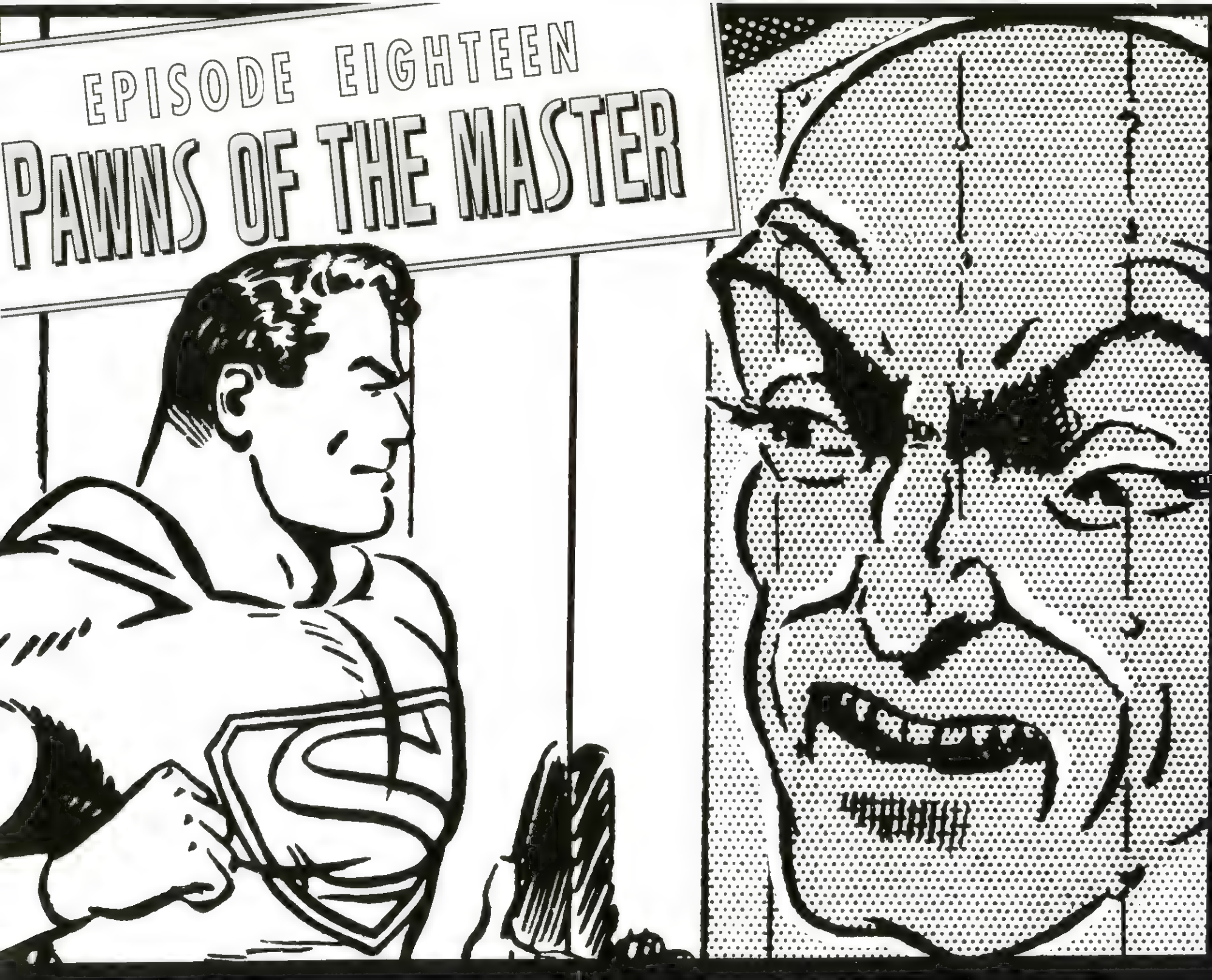
Bomb-Proof!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Unmasked!



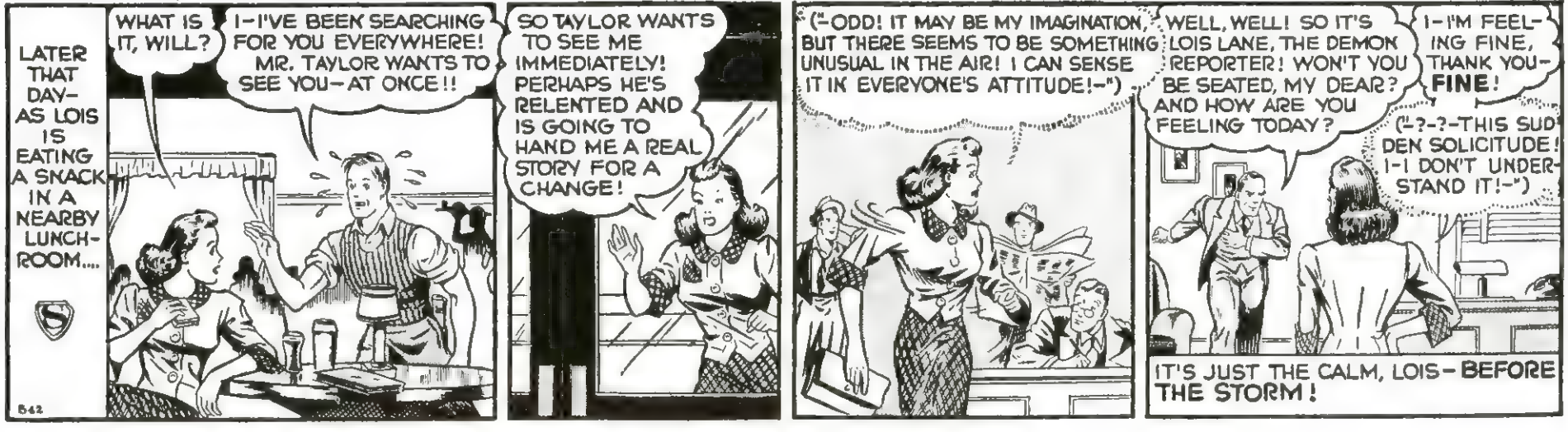

EPISODE EIGHTEEN
PAWNS OF THE MASTER

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

There's Many a Slip—

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Storm Ahead!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

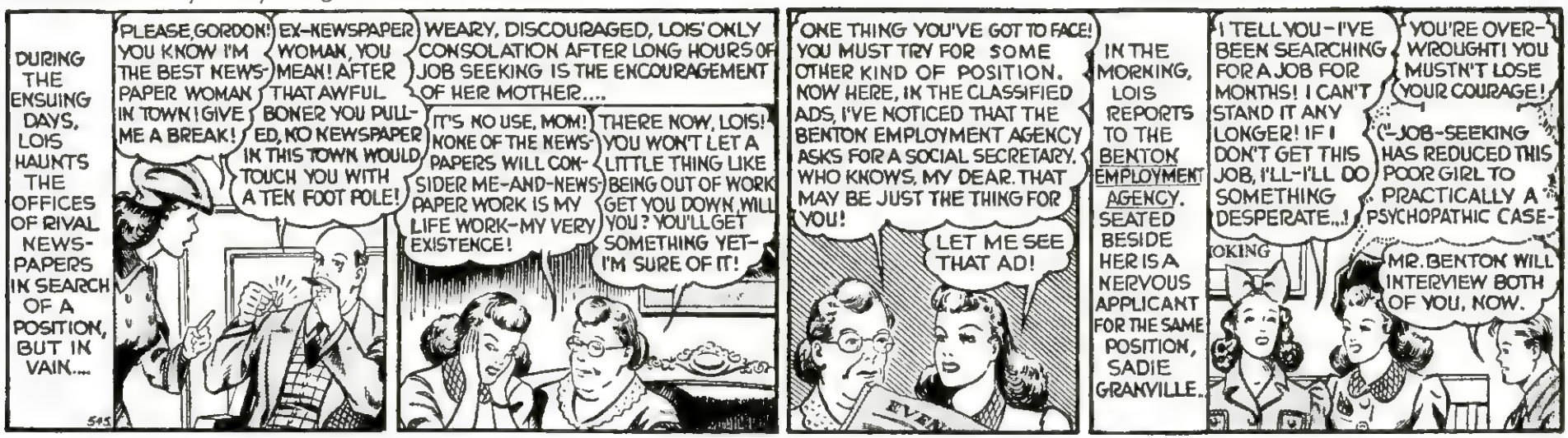
Fired!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Needs a Lesson

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Girl's Best Friend



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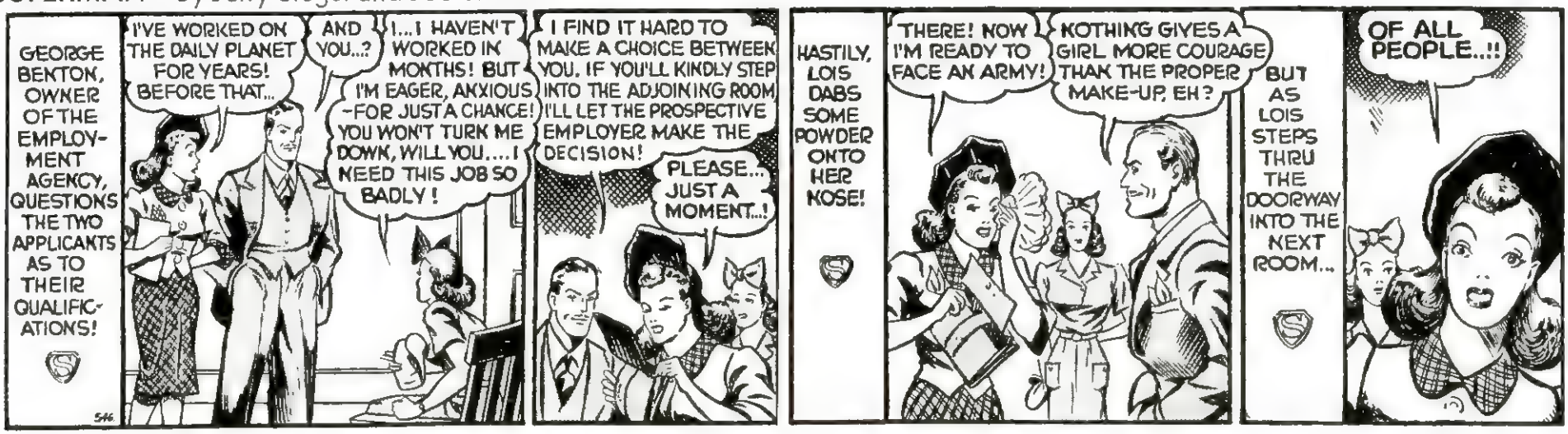
Who—???



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Disappointed Job Seeker

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Girl With a Secret Past

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

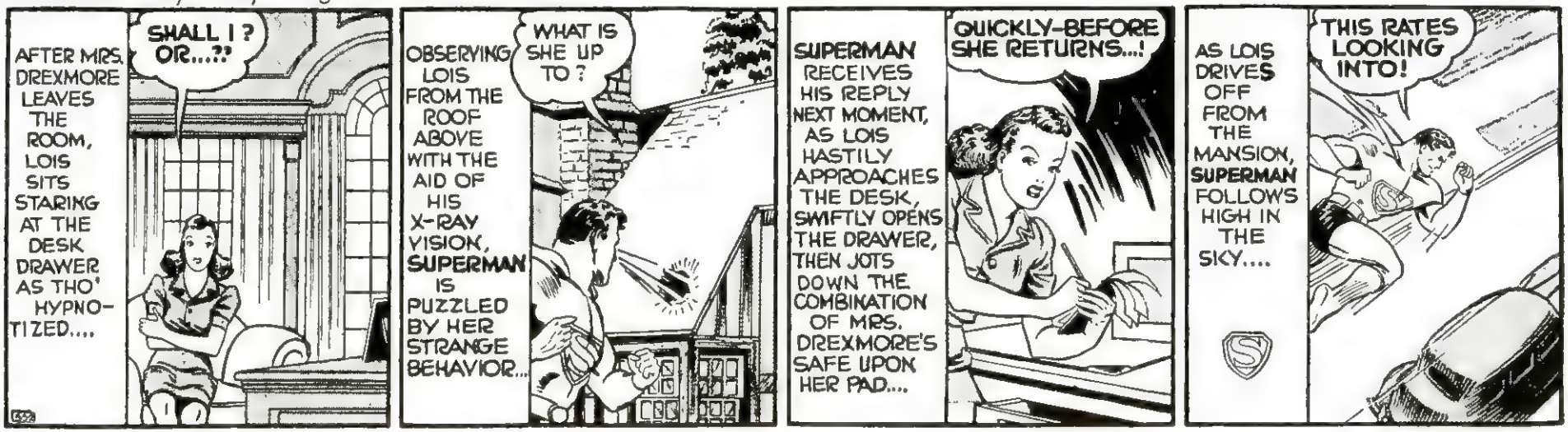
Clark Curbs His Curiosity

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Ultimatum!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Unpredictable Lois



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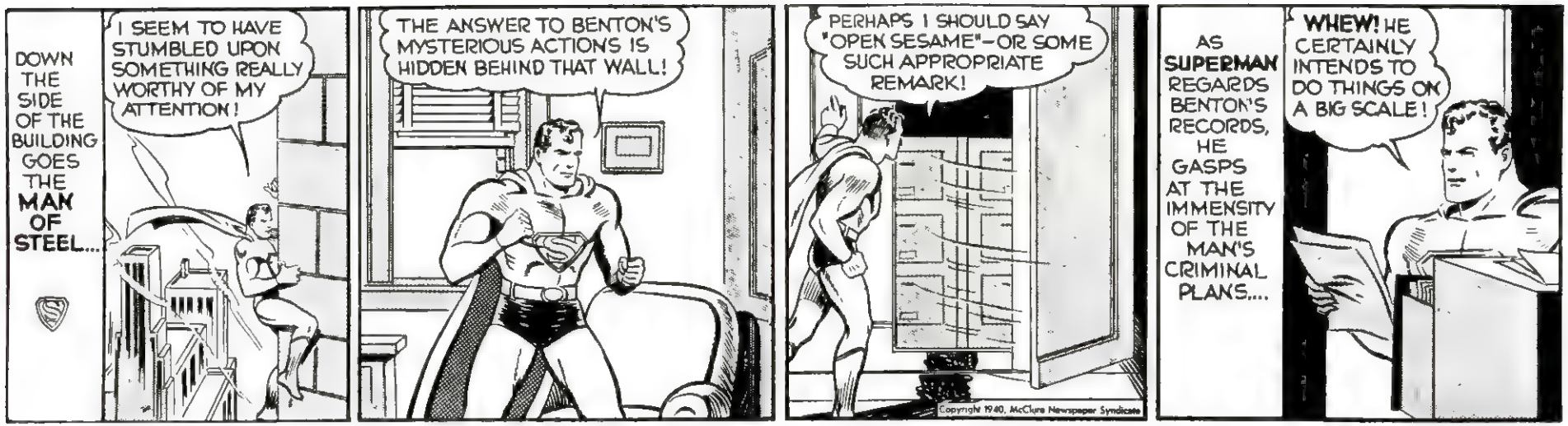
Puzzle Fan



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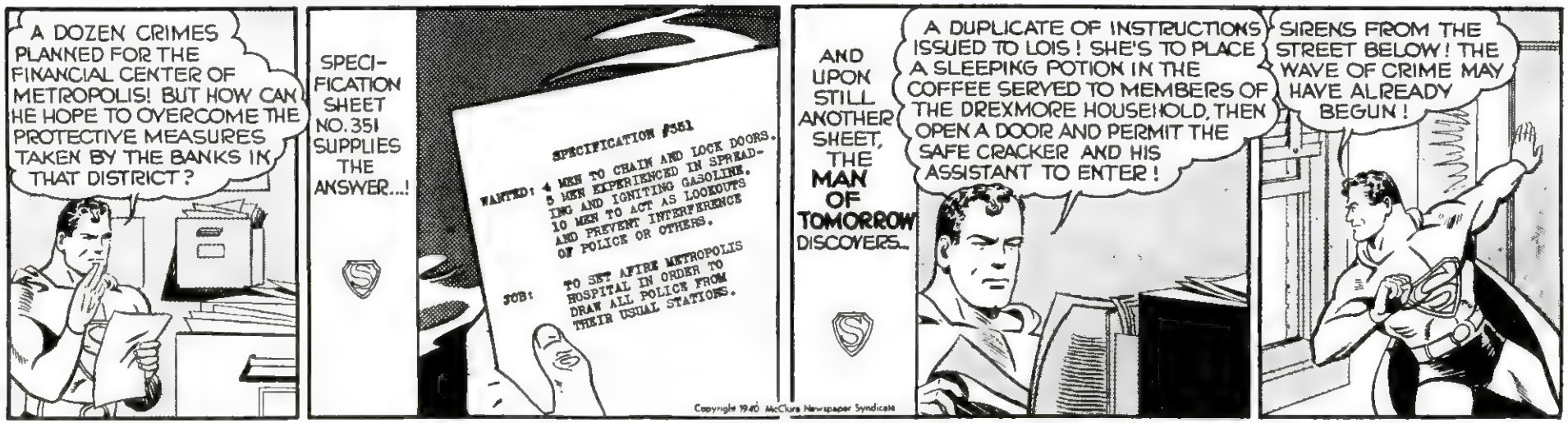
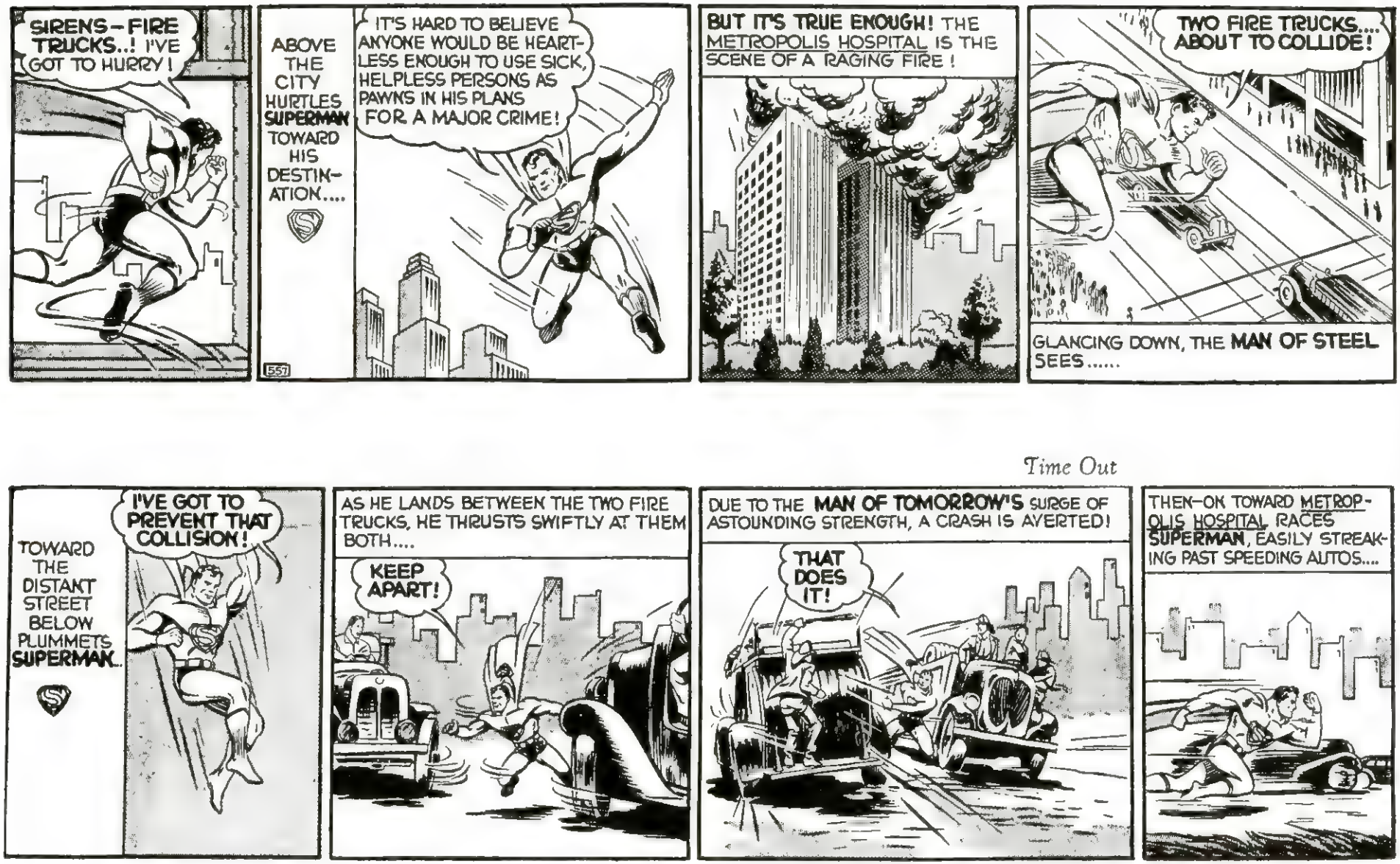
No Time to Lose!




SIRENS—FIRE TRUCKS..! I'VE GOT TO HURRY!
ABOVE THE CITY HURTLES SUPERMAN TOWARD HIS DESTINATION....
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ANYONE WOULD BE HEARTLESS ENOUGH TO USE SICK, HELPLESS PERSONS AS PAWNS IN HIS PLANS FOR A MAJOR CRIME!
BUT IT'S TRUE ENOUGH! THE METROPOLIS HOSPITAL IS THE SCENE OF A RAGING FIRE!
TWO FIRE TRUCKS.... ABOUT TO COLLIDE!
GLANCING DOWN, THE MAN OF STEEL SEES.....
TOWARD THE DISTANT STREET BELOW PLUMMETS SUPERMAN...
I'VE GOT TO PREVENT THAT COLLISION!
AS HE LANDS BETWEEN THE TWO FIRE TRUCKS, HE THRUSTS SWIFTLY AT THEM BOTH....
KEEP APART!
DUE TO THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S SURGE OF ASTOUNDING STRENGTH, A CRASH IS AVERTED!
THAT DOES IT!
THEN—ON TOWARD METROPOLIS HOSPITAL RACES SUPERMAN, EASILY STREAKING PAST SPEEDING AUTOS....

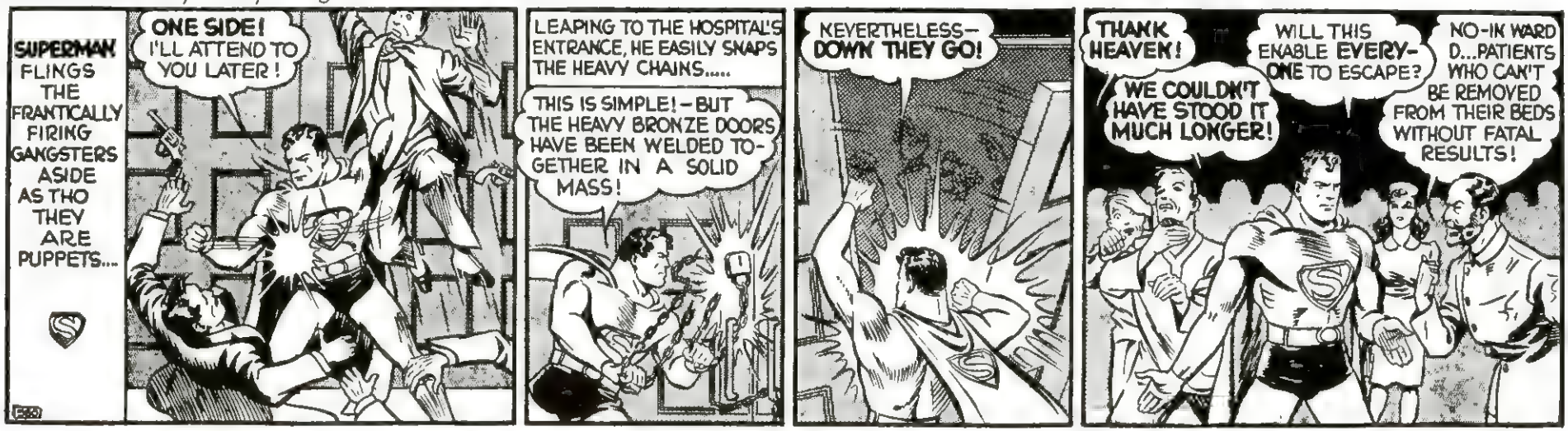
Time Out

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Middle Man

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Blasted Barriers

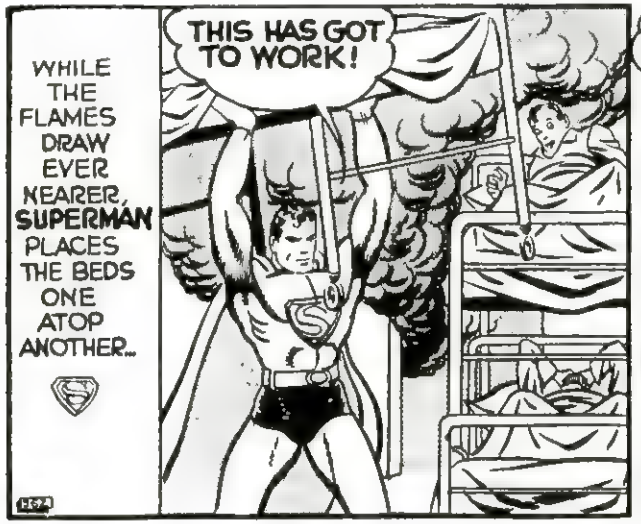


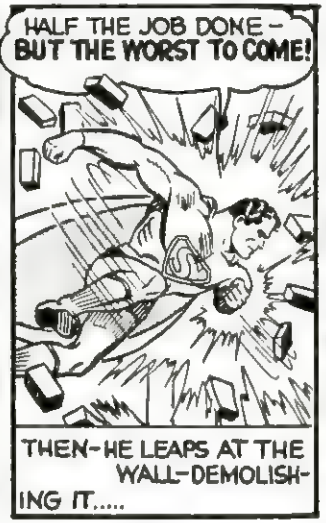
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

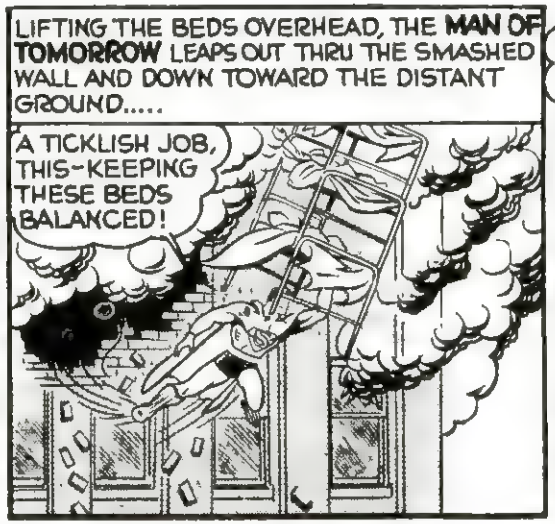
What to Do?

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Free Ride!







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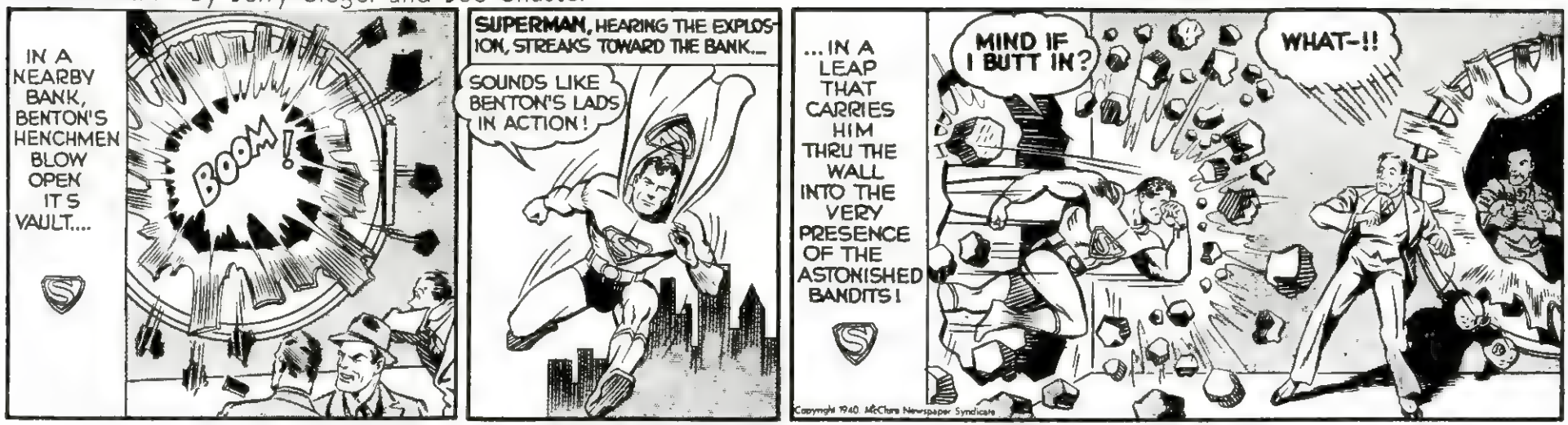
Gate Crasher.



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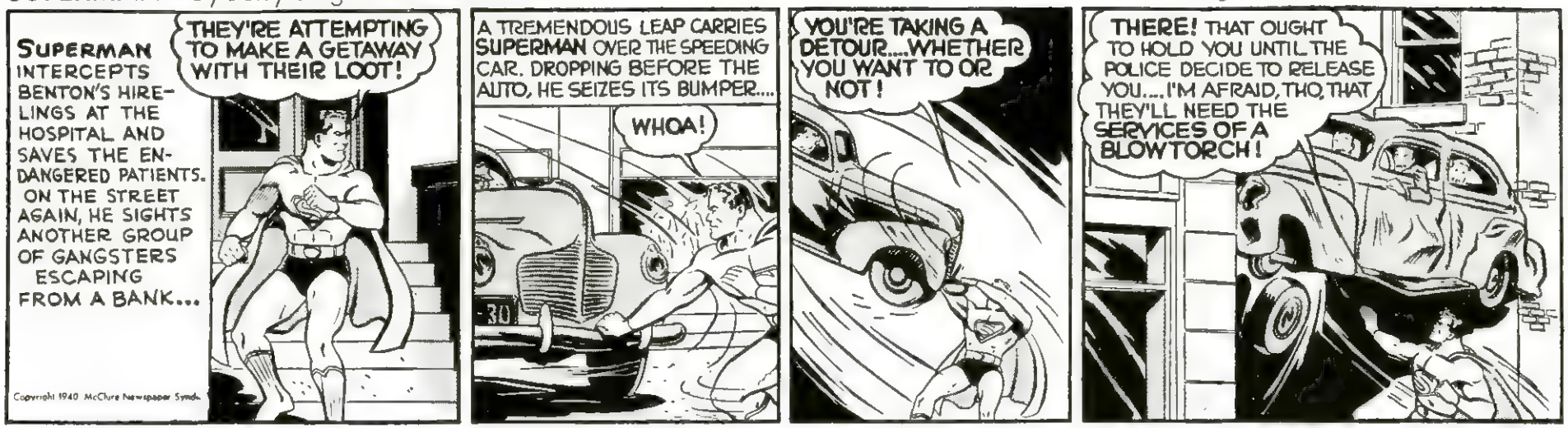
Caged!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Snug Fit



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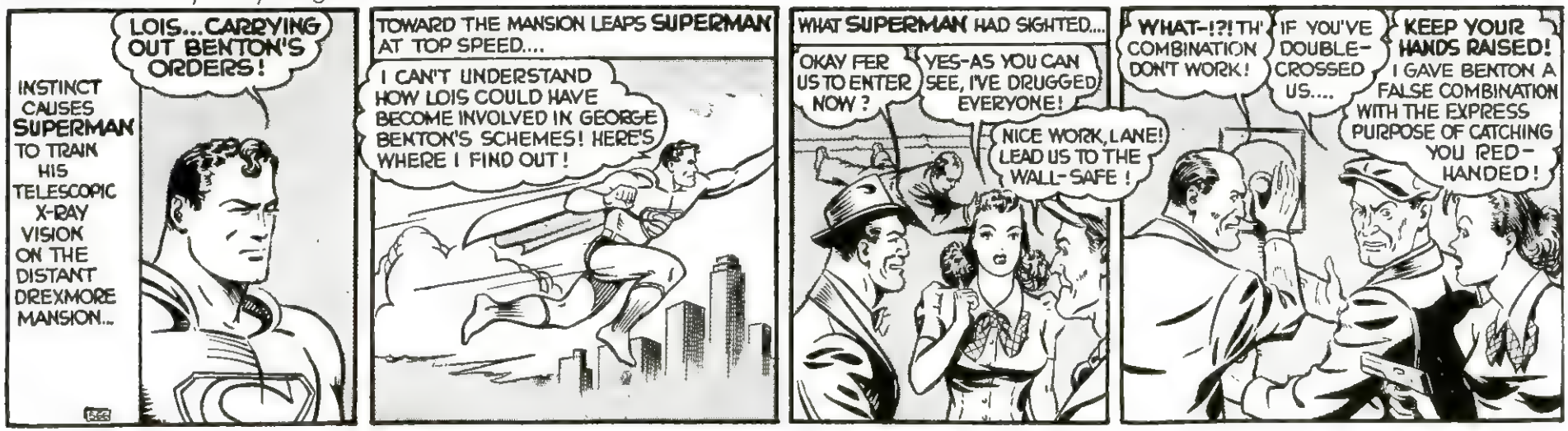
Lois Plan



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Crashing In!

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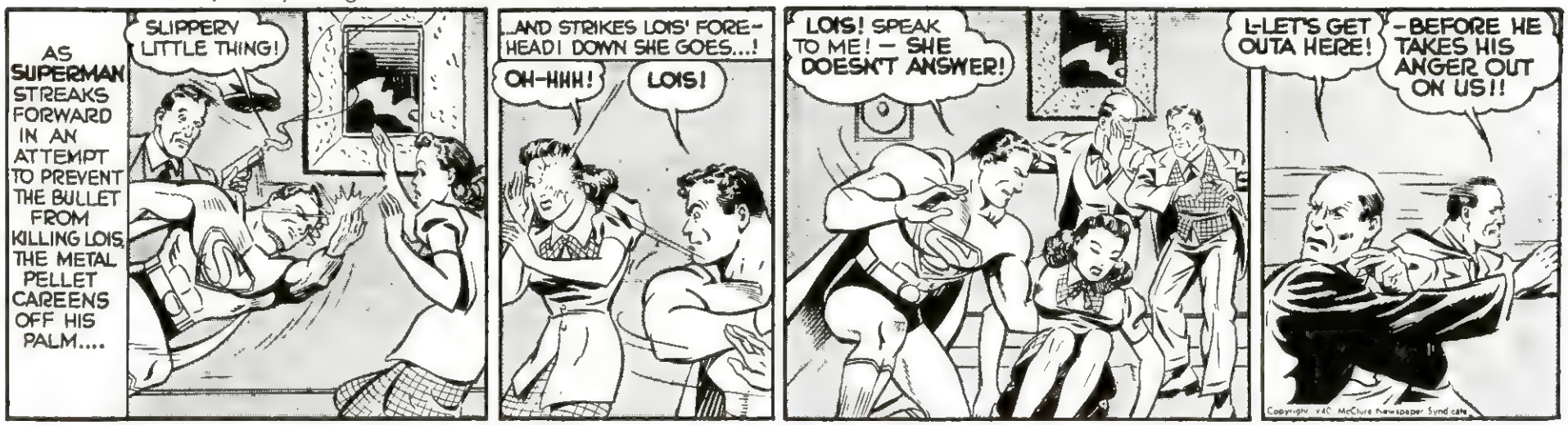
Tragedy?



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Strange Goal

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The "Master" Again

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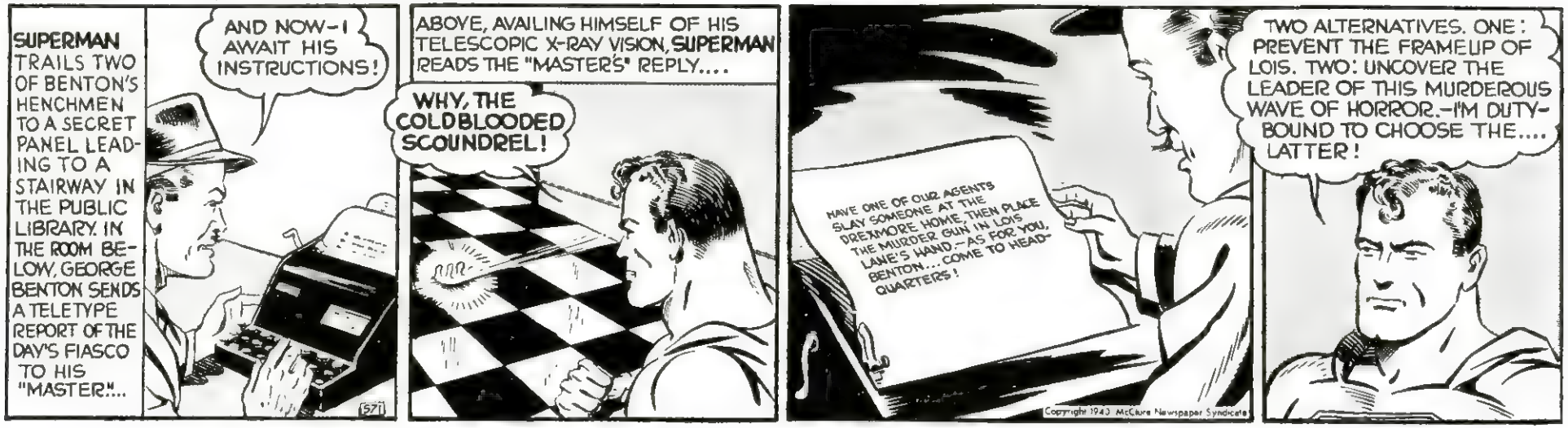
A Difficult Decision



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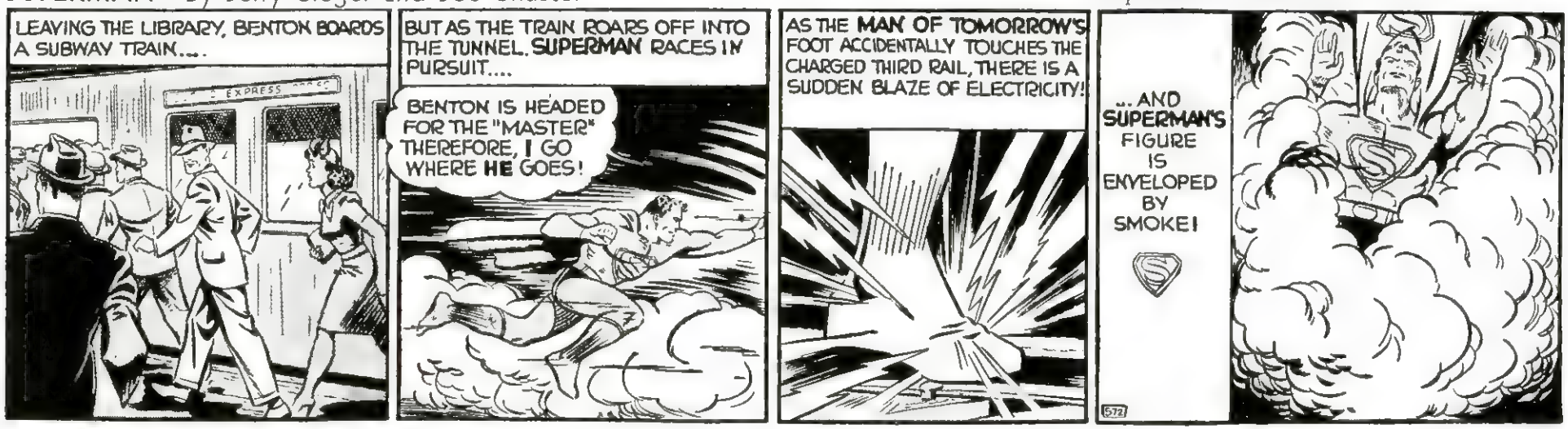
Superman Puts His Foot Into It



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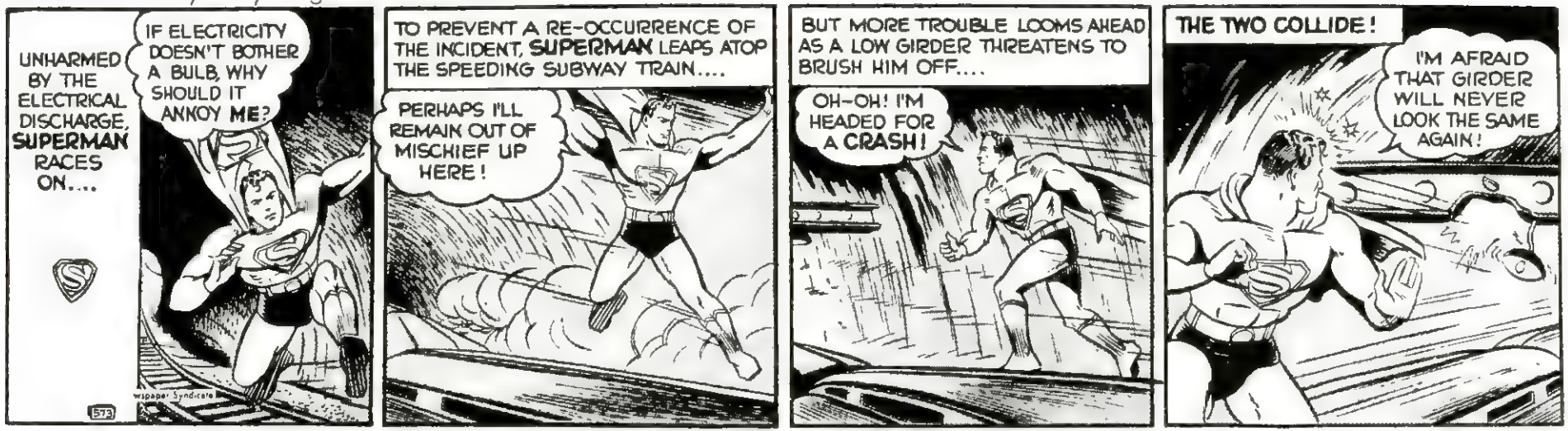
You Can't Brush Me Off



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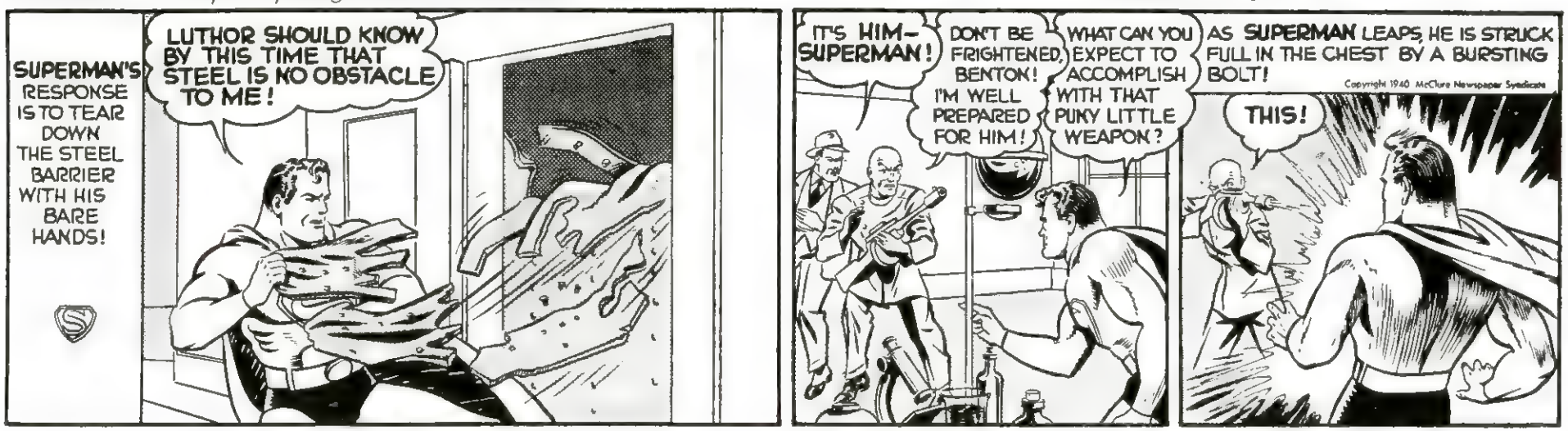
On the Trail

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Luthor!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Luthor's Hospitality



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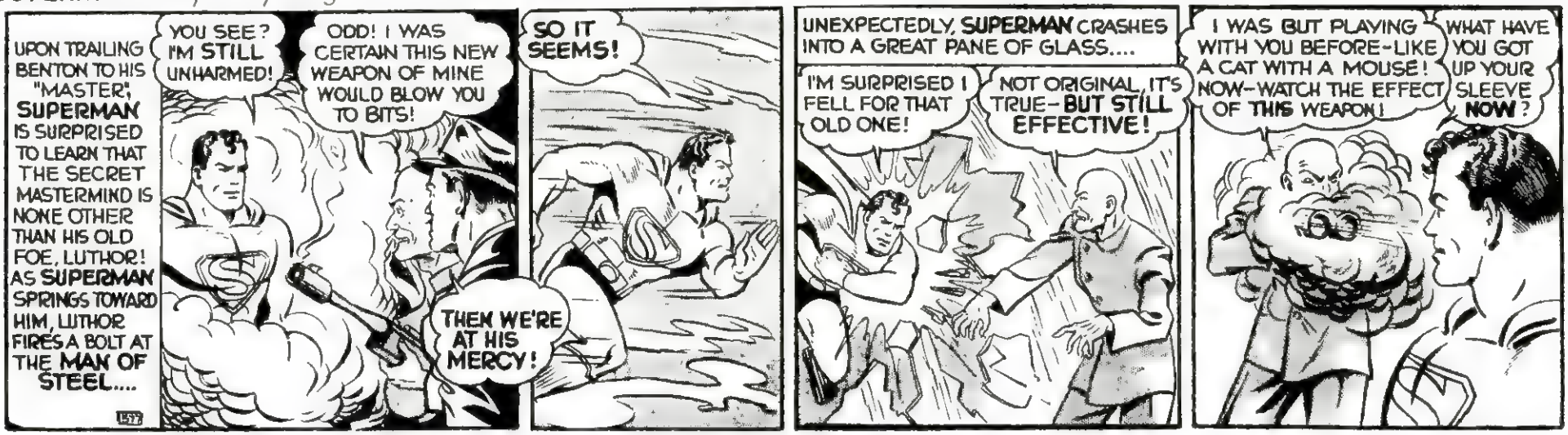
Just a Playboy



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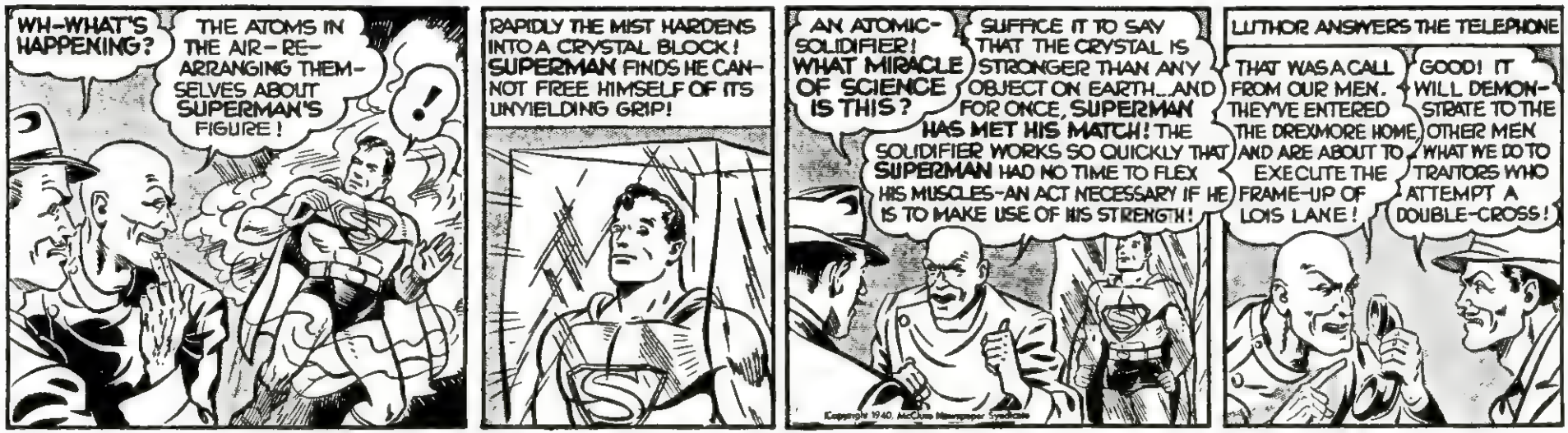
A Scientific Miracle



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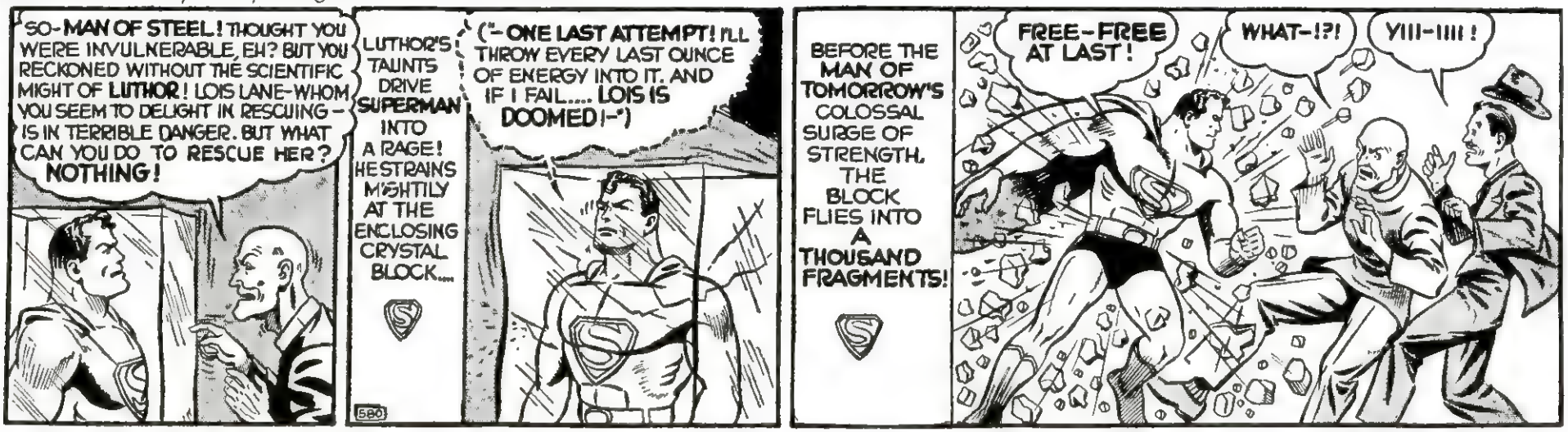
A Rat Sets a Trap

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Free!



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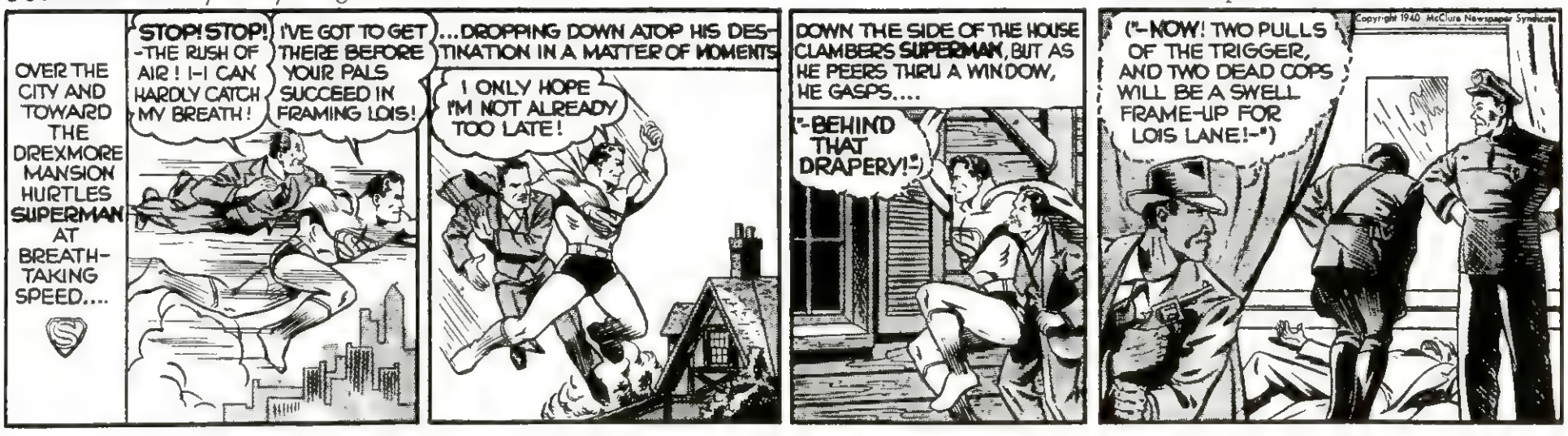
The Little Man Who Wasn't There

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Uninvited Spectator



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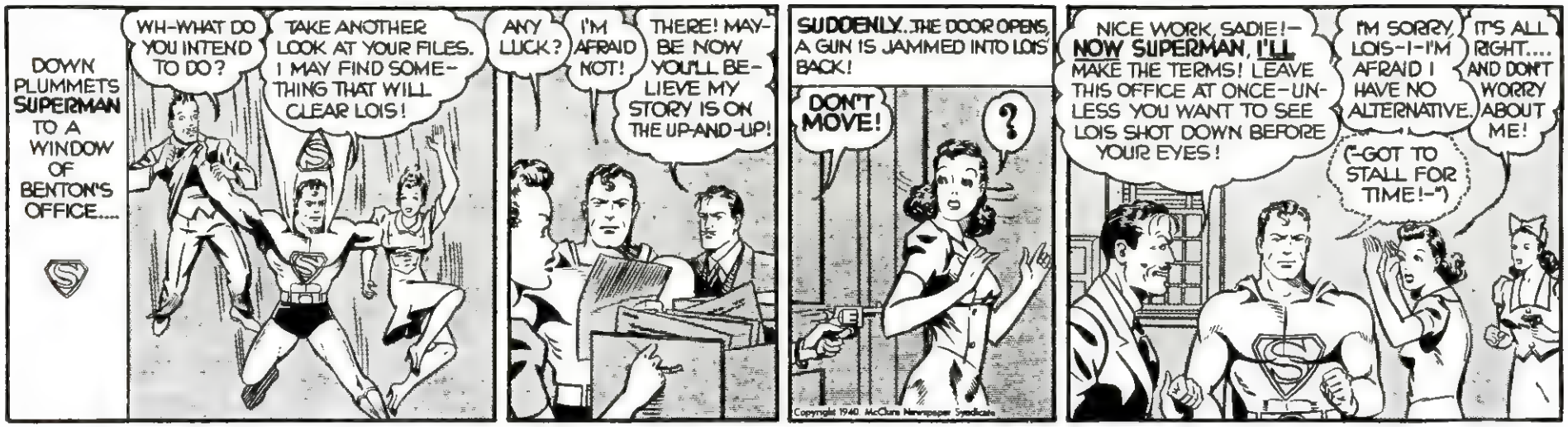
Fast Action!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Offer Rejected

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Tables Turned!



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A Good Connection

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Exit Superman

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

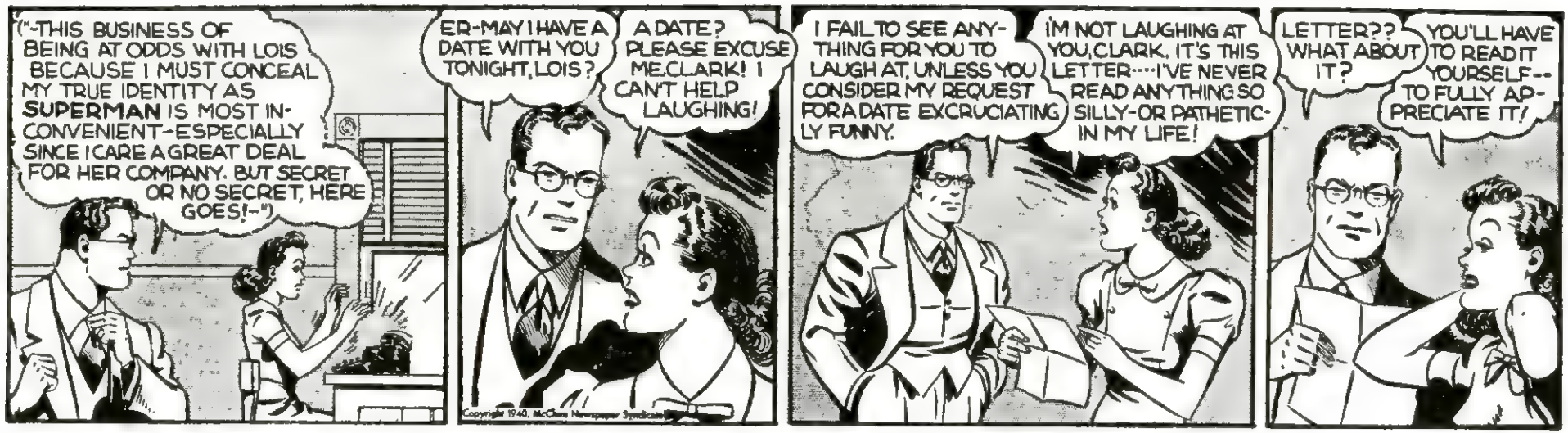
A Right Guy

EPISODE NINETEEN

THE MEEKEST MAN IN THE WORLD

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Laughing Matter



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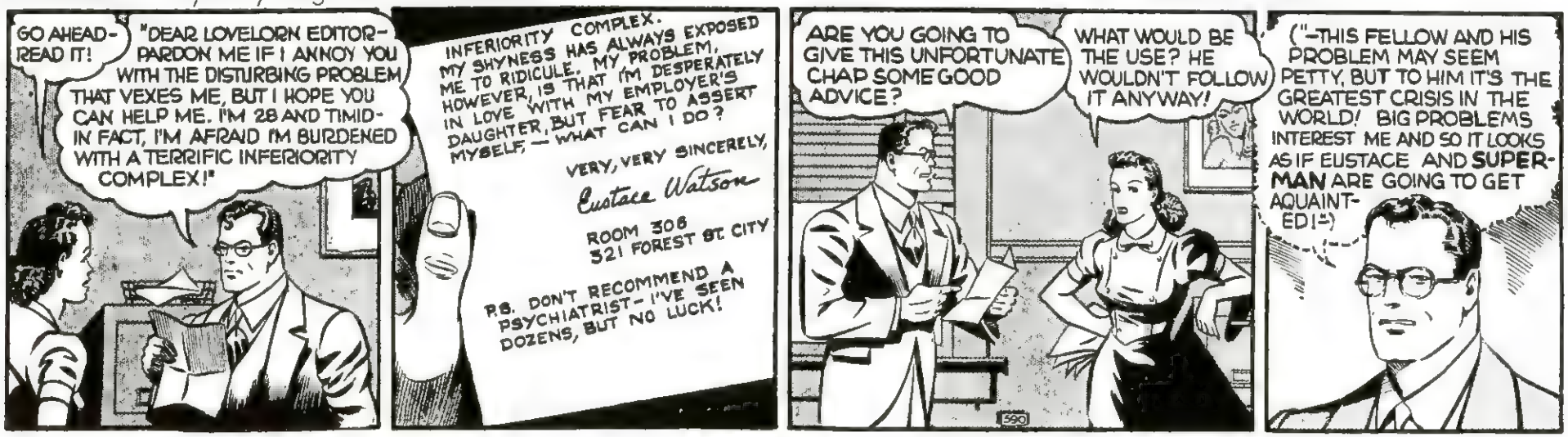
Enter Eustace Watson



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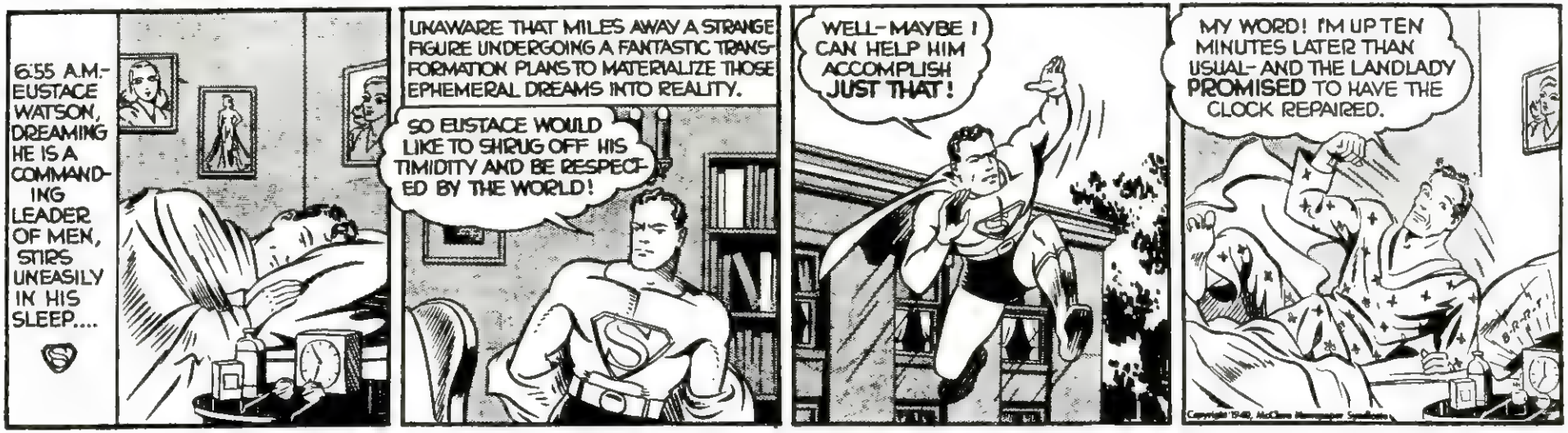
Perhaps "Wishing Will Make It So"



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Enforced Diet.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

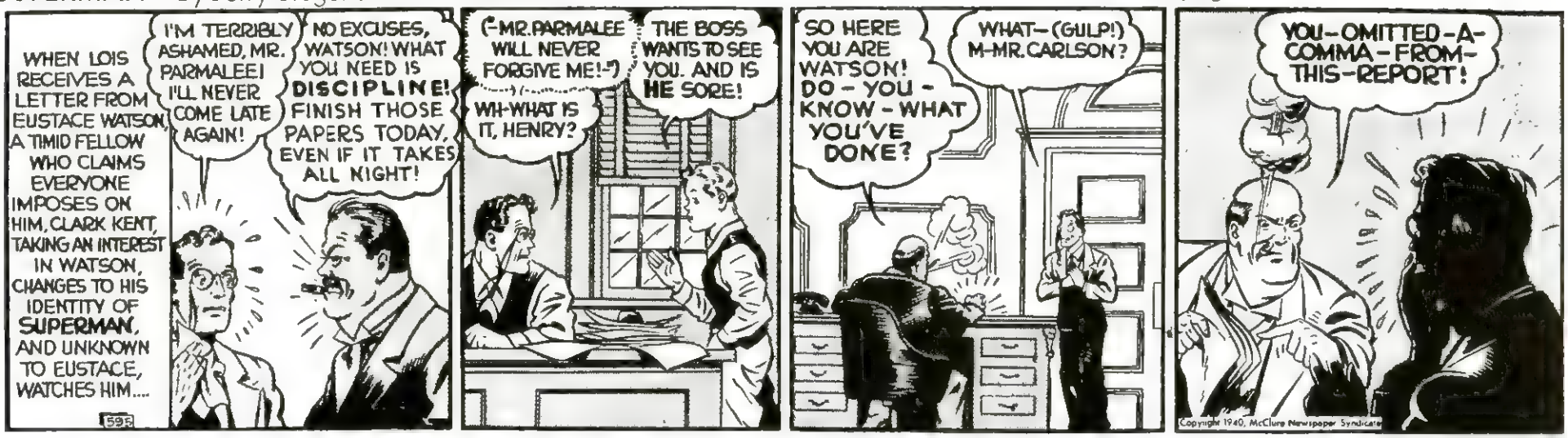
He'll Stand for Anything

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Broken Record

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Unforgivable!



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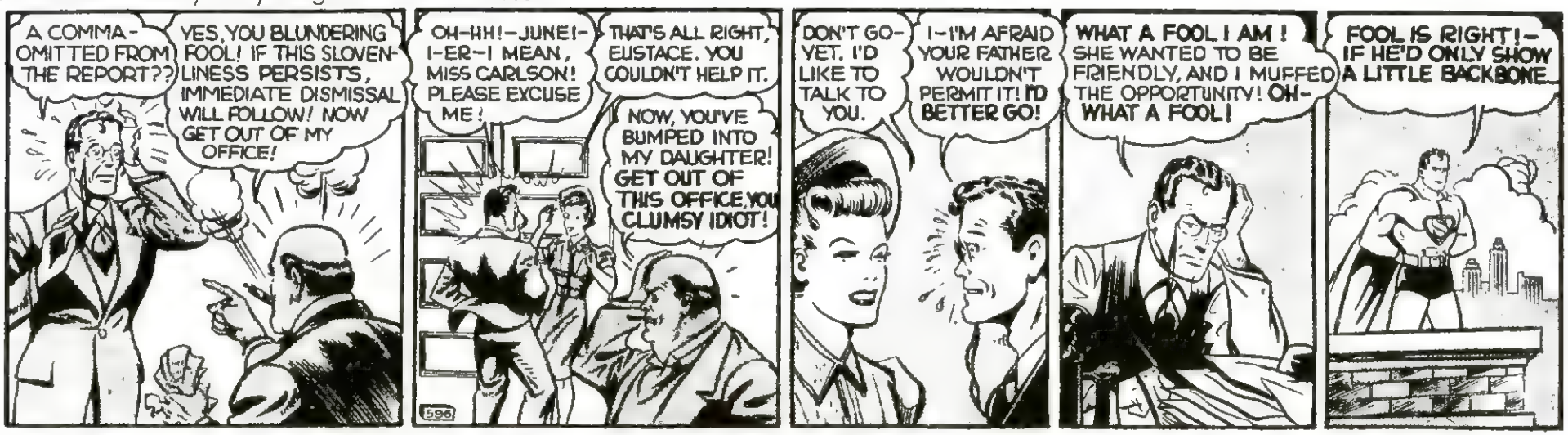

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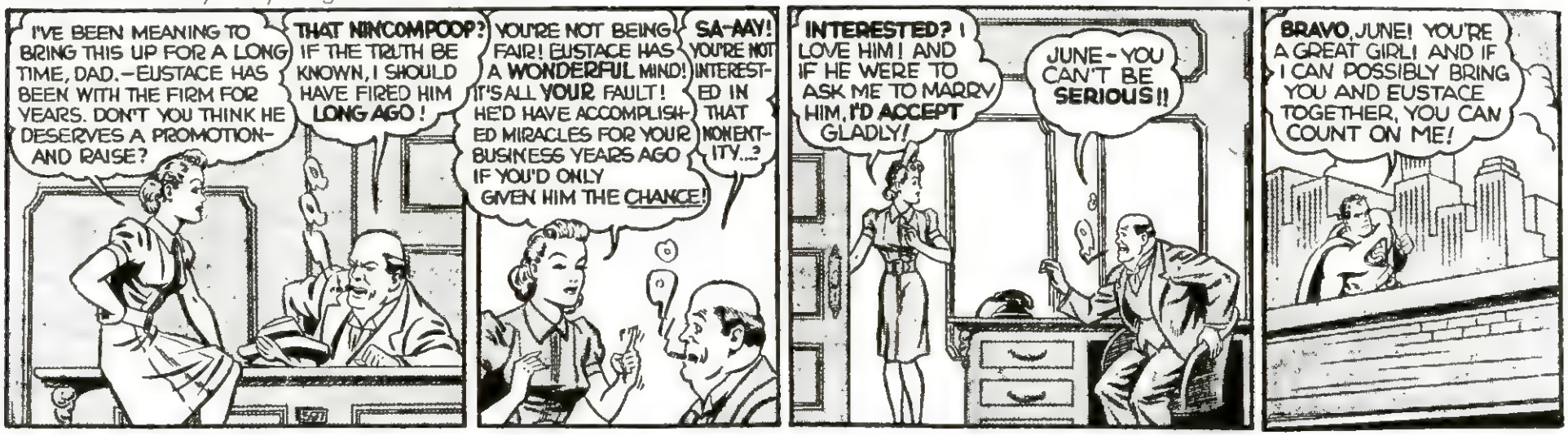
Matchmaker



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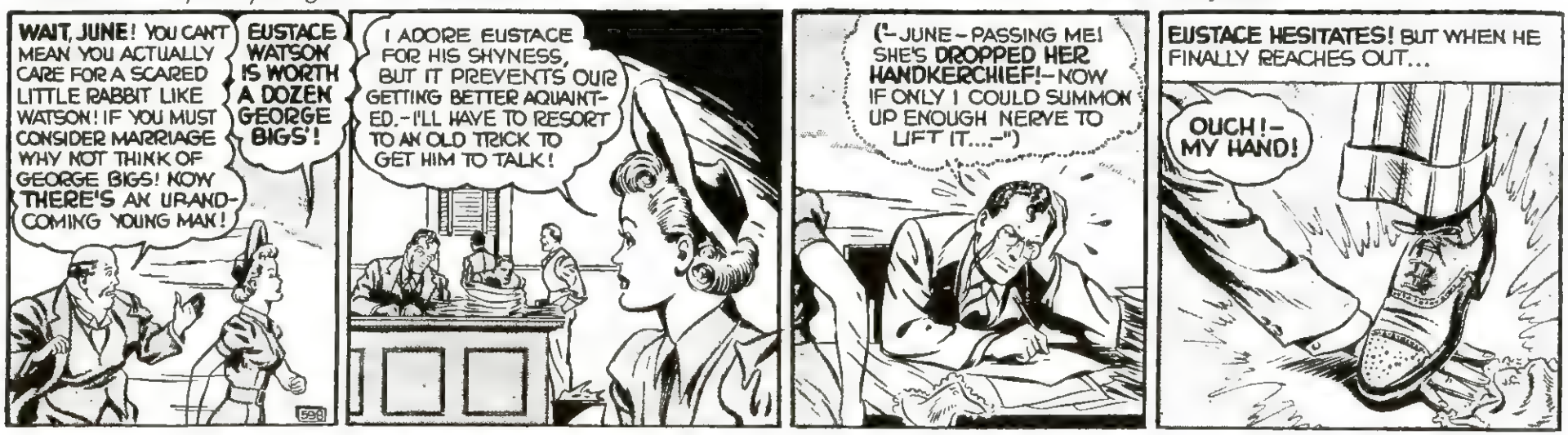
Pardon My Foot



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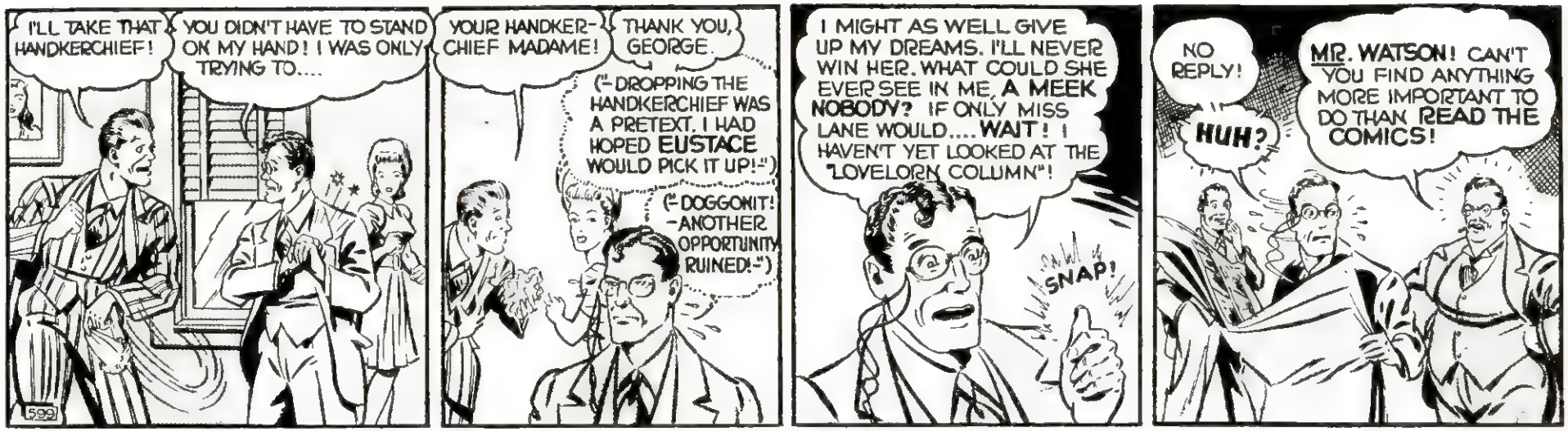
What Could Be More Important?



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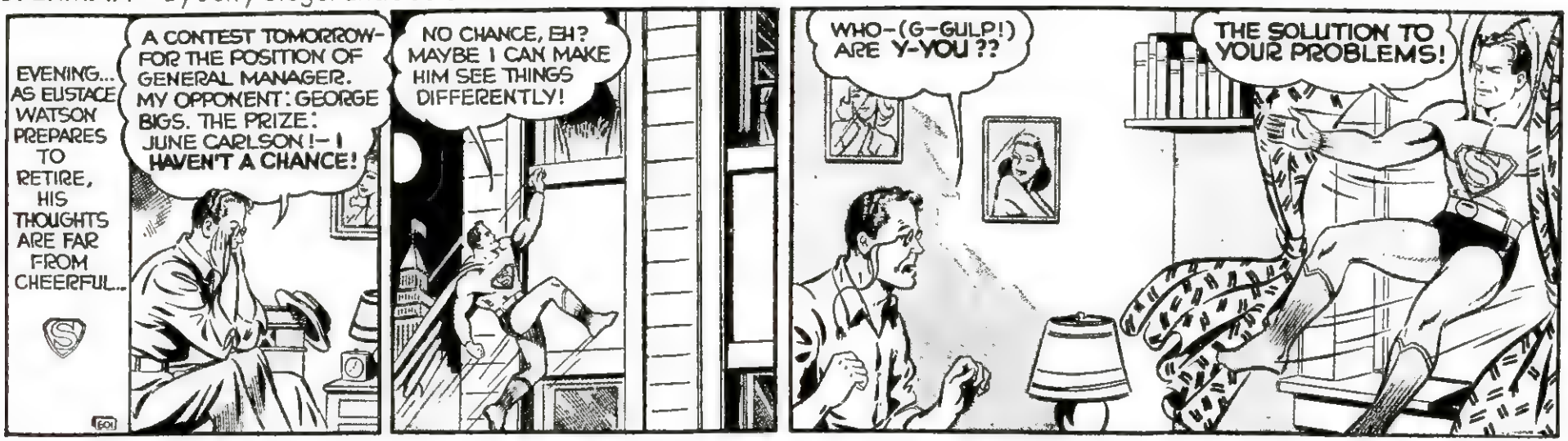
To the Winner

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Unknown Quantity.



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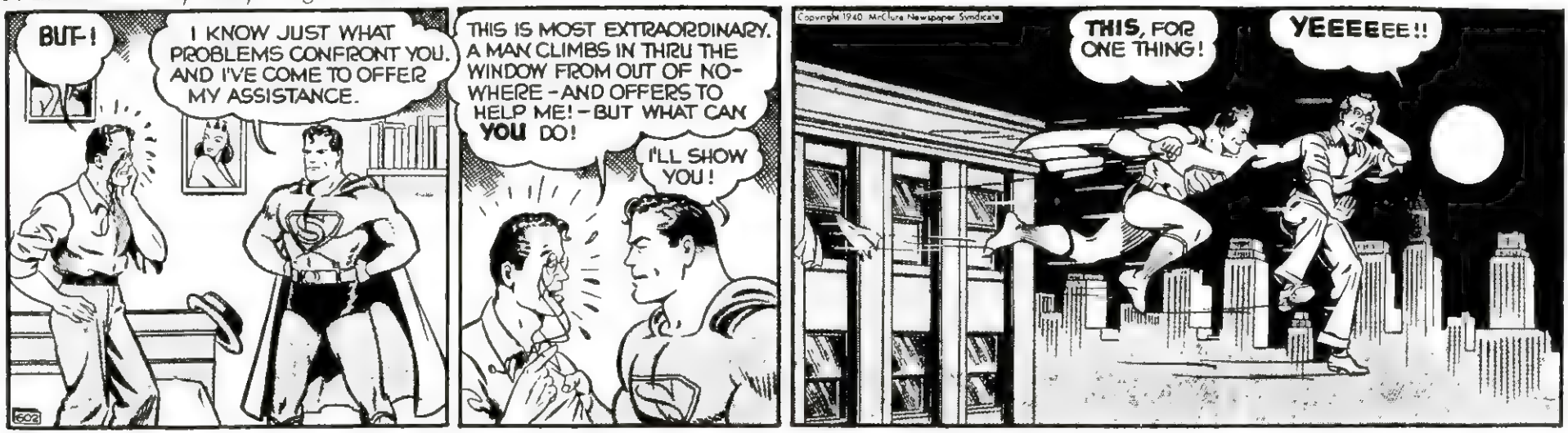
Out the Window You Must Go.



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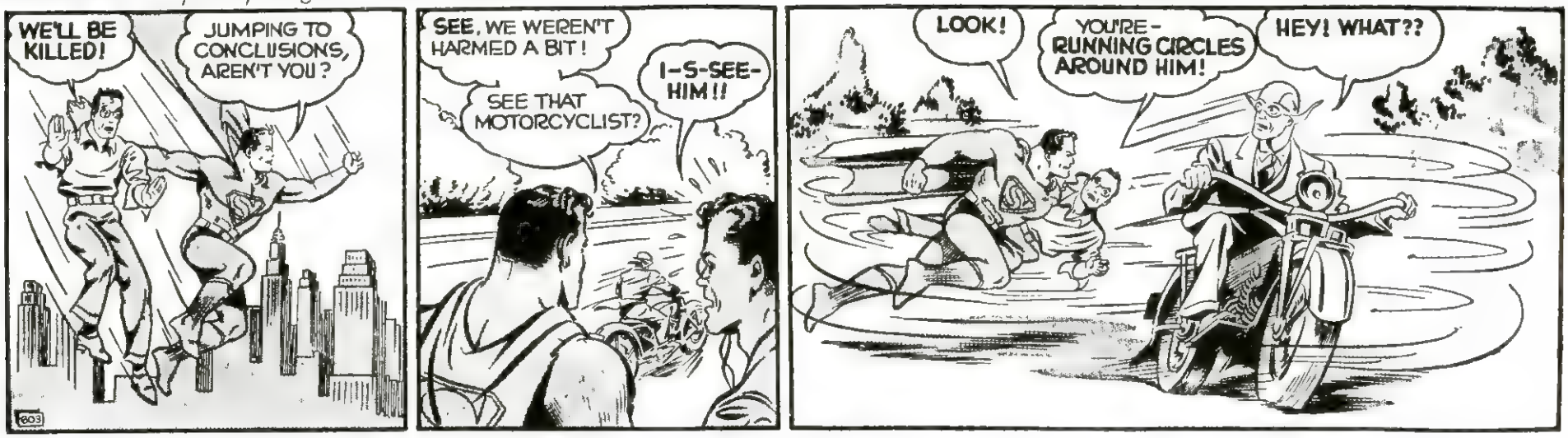
Out the Window You Must Go



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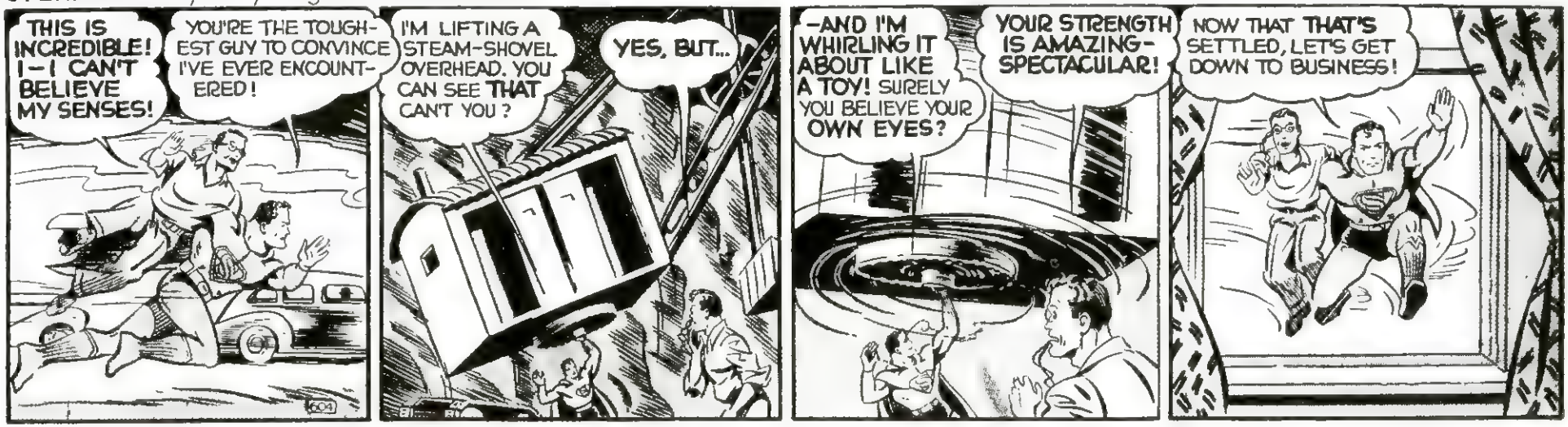
Eustace Takes a Lot of Convincing



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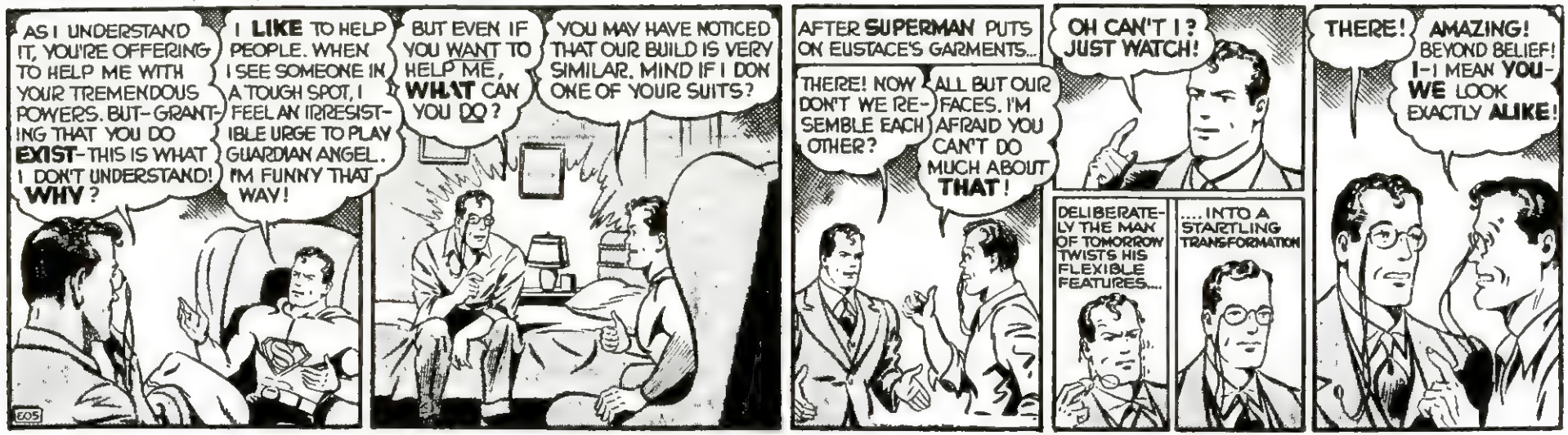
It Can Be Done!



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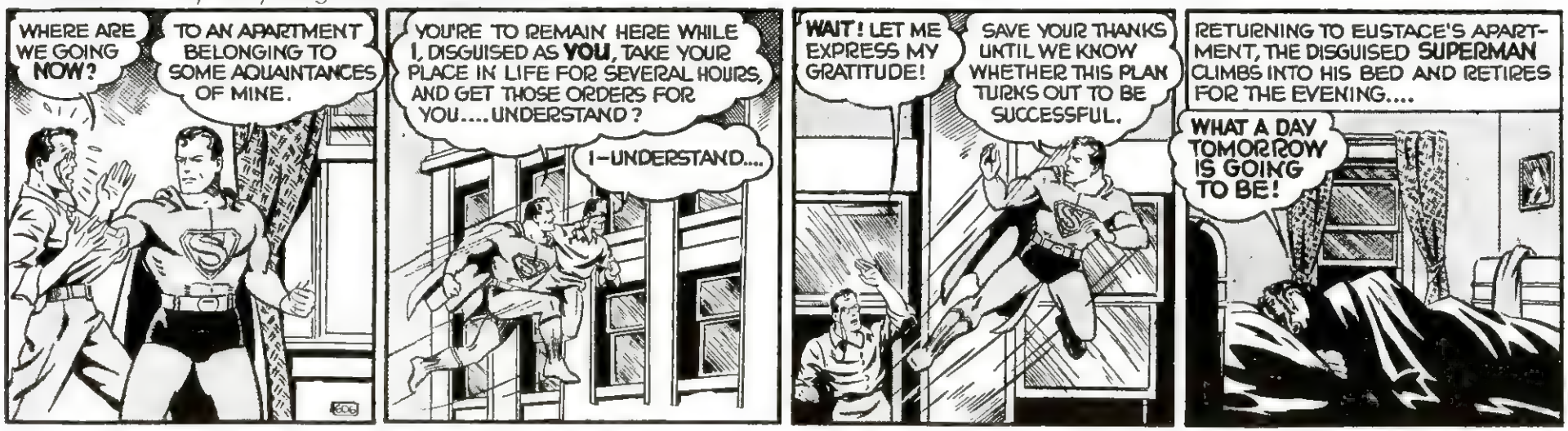
Twins



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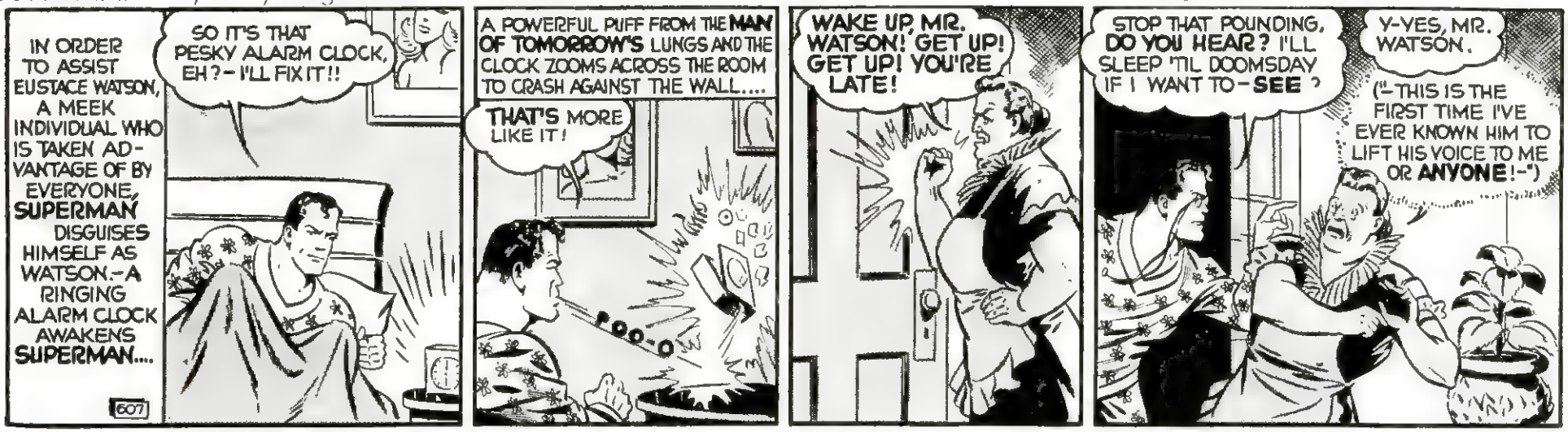
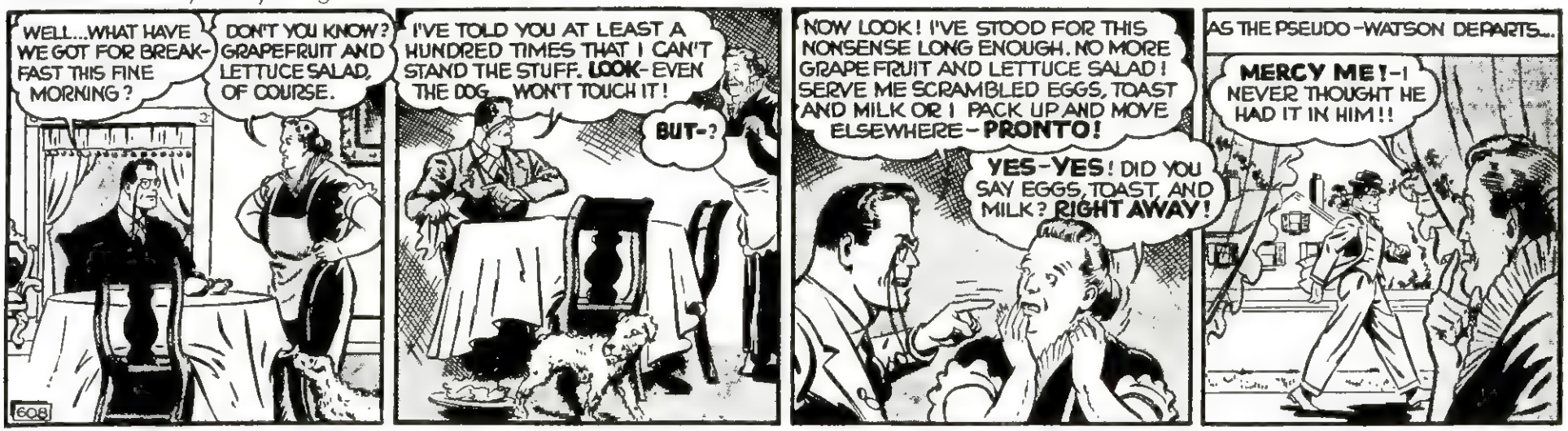
Surprise!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

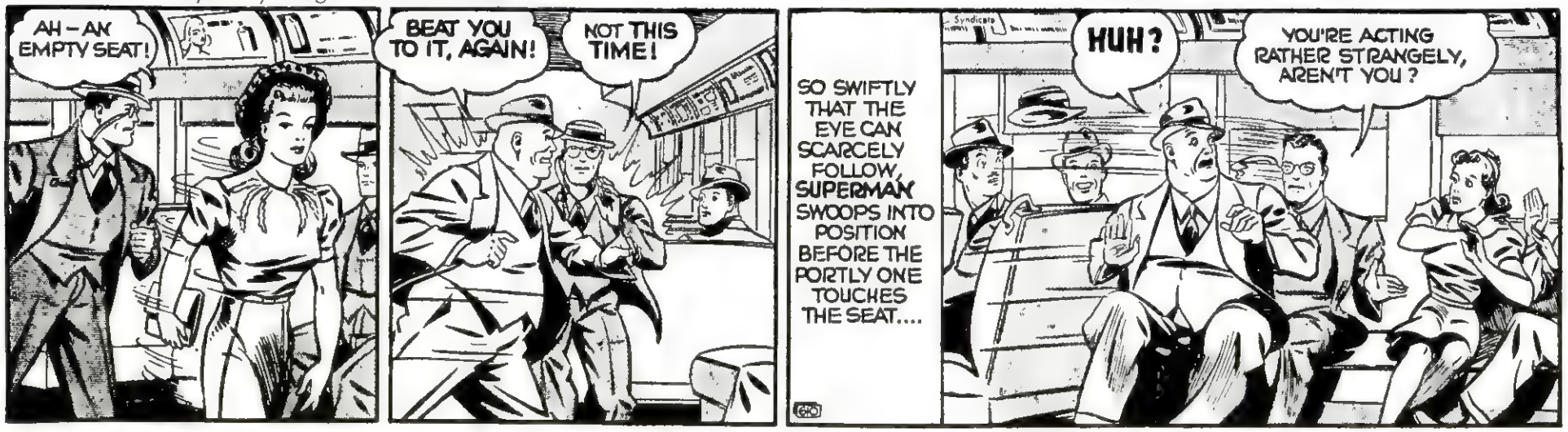
The Worm Turns



Superman—*A Merry Christmas to You All!*

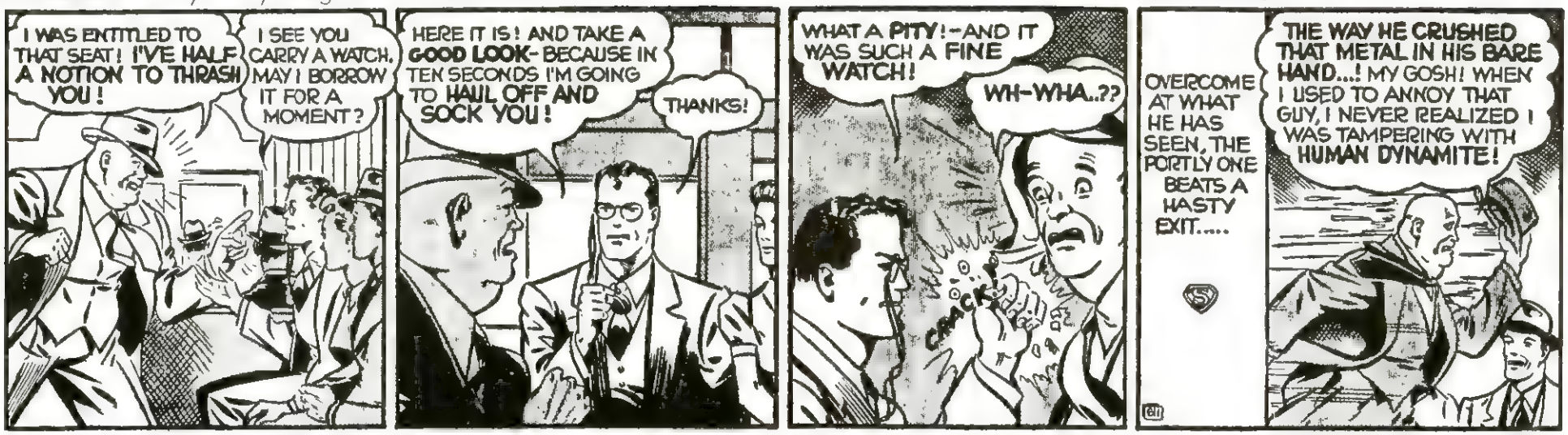
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

First Come — — !

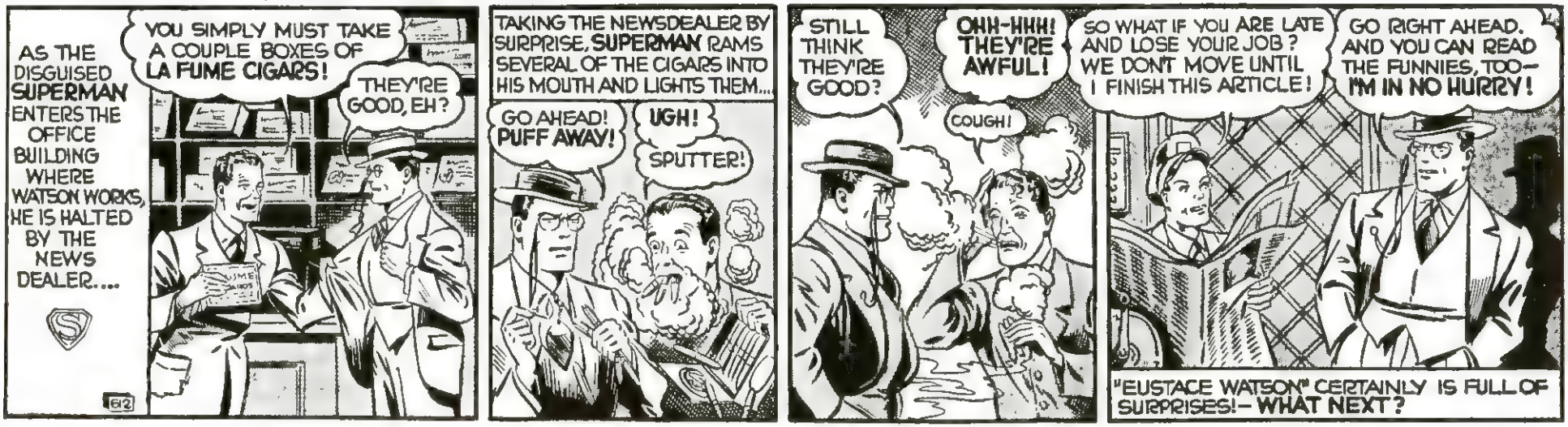


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Narrow Escape!

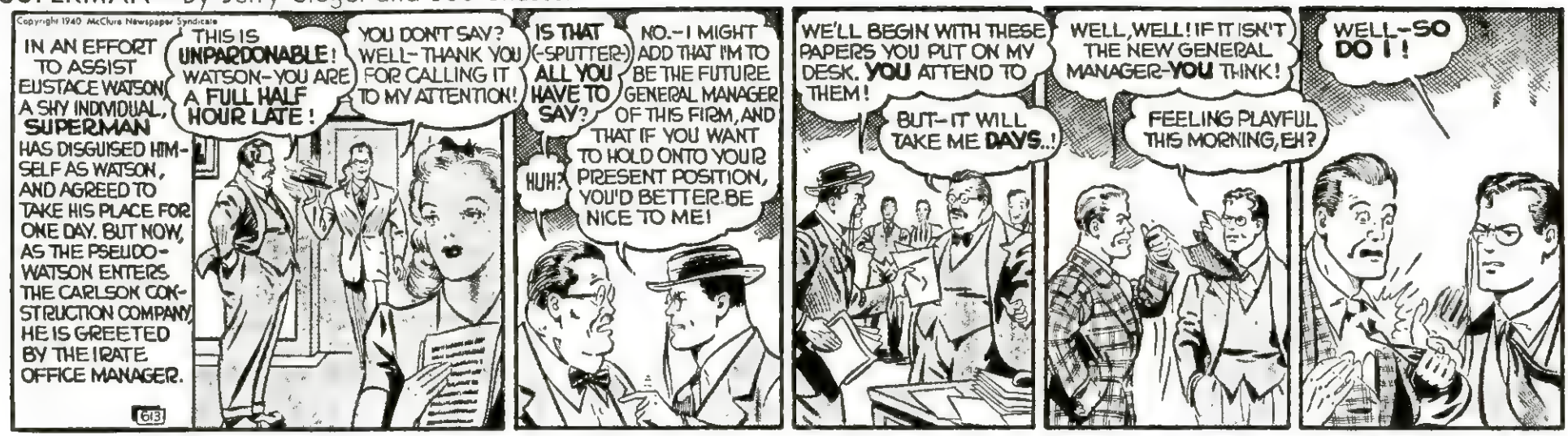


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

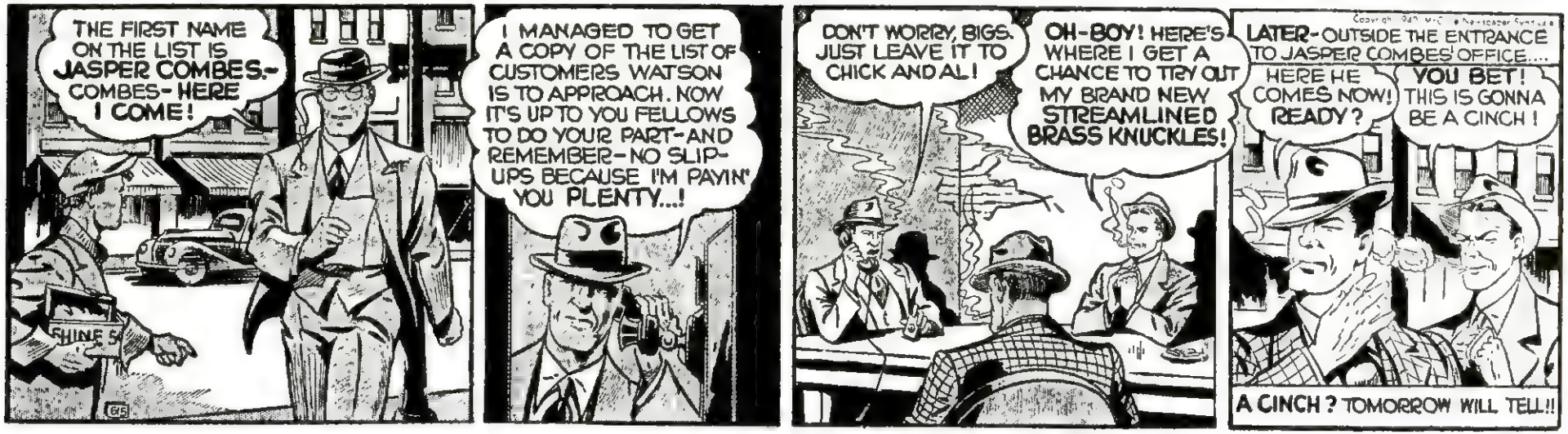
Tit for Tat



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Has the Worm Turned?

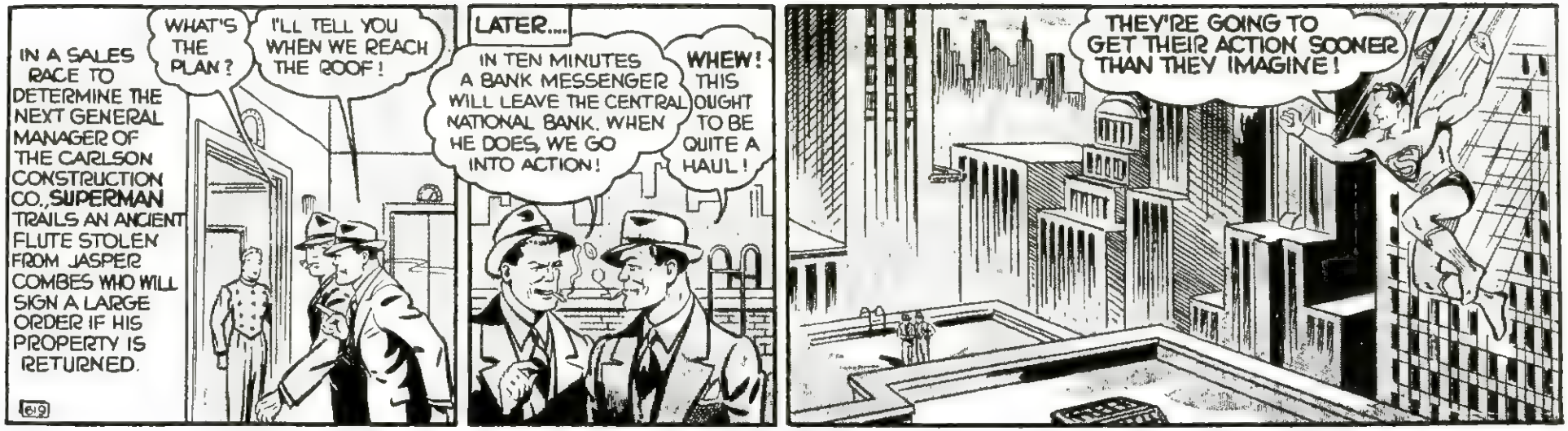
Superman—*Ready and Waiting* —*By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster*



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster *Some Rabbit*

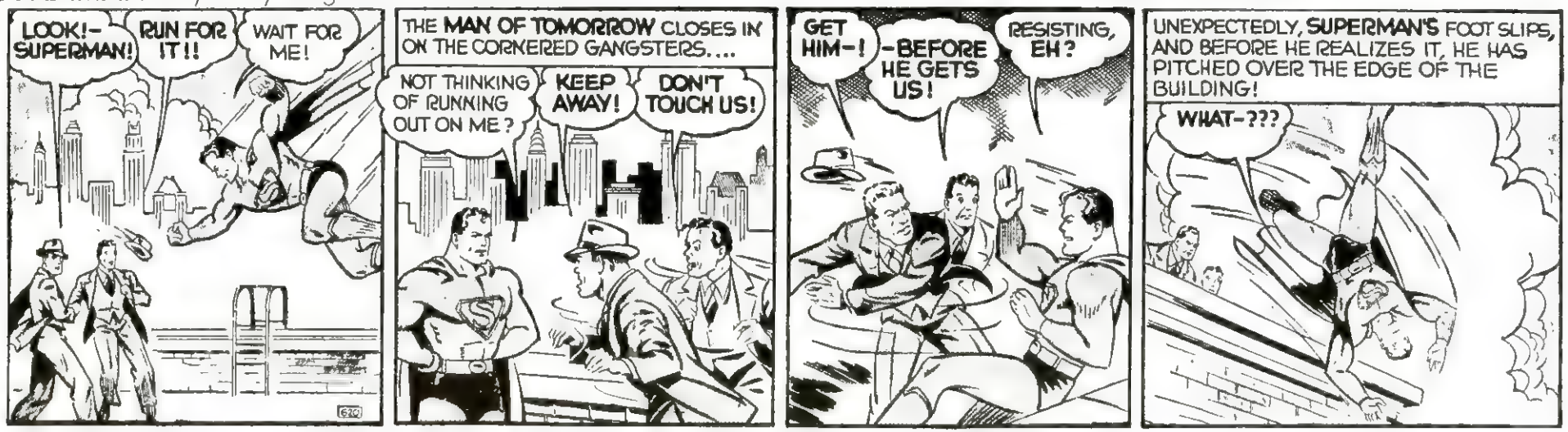
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

His Task Cut Out



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

There's Many a Slip



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

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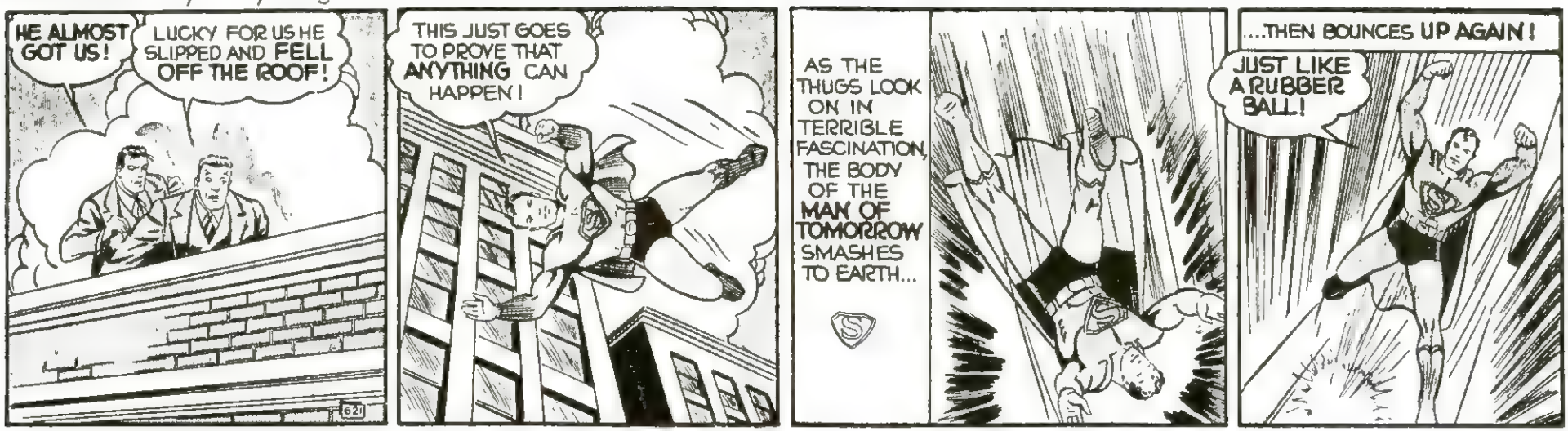


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

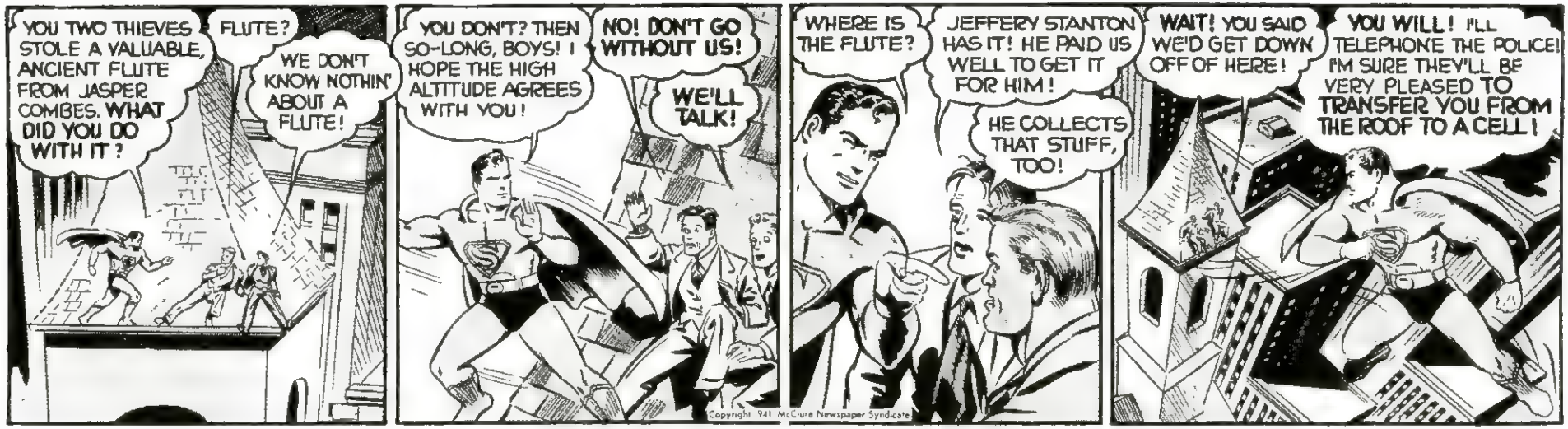
A Bouncing Boy

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Gentle Persuasion

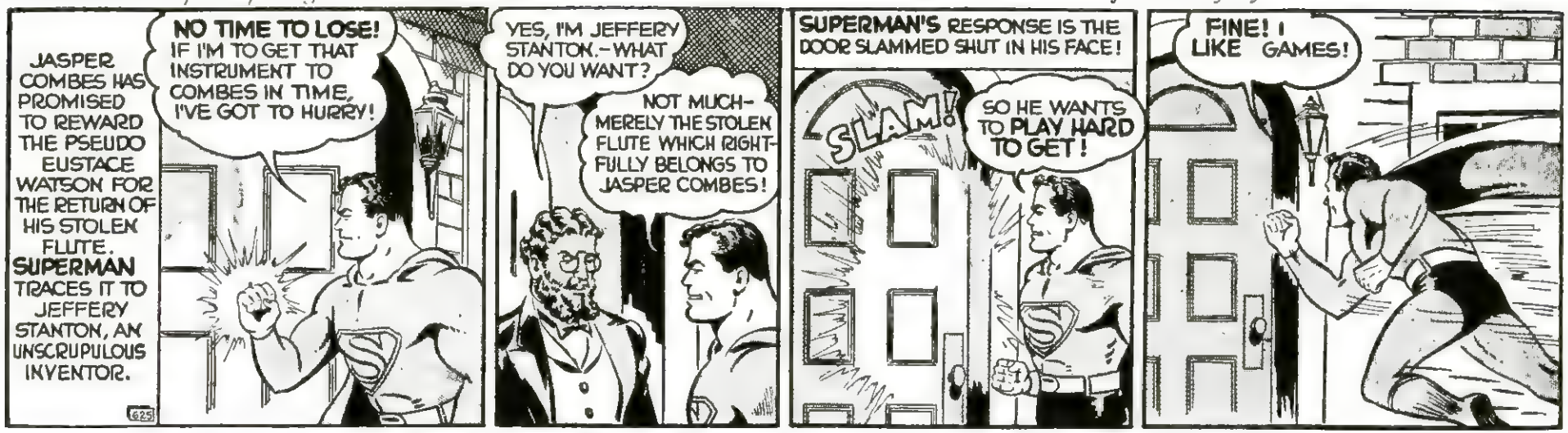
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Man of His Word



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Just a Playboy



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

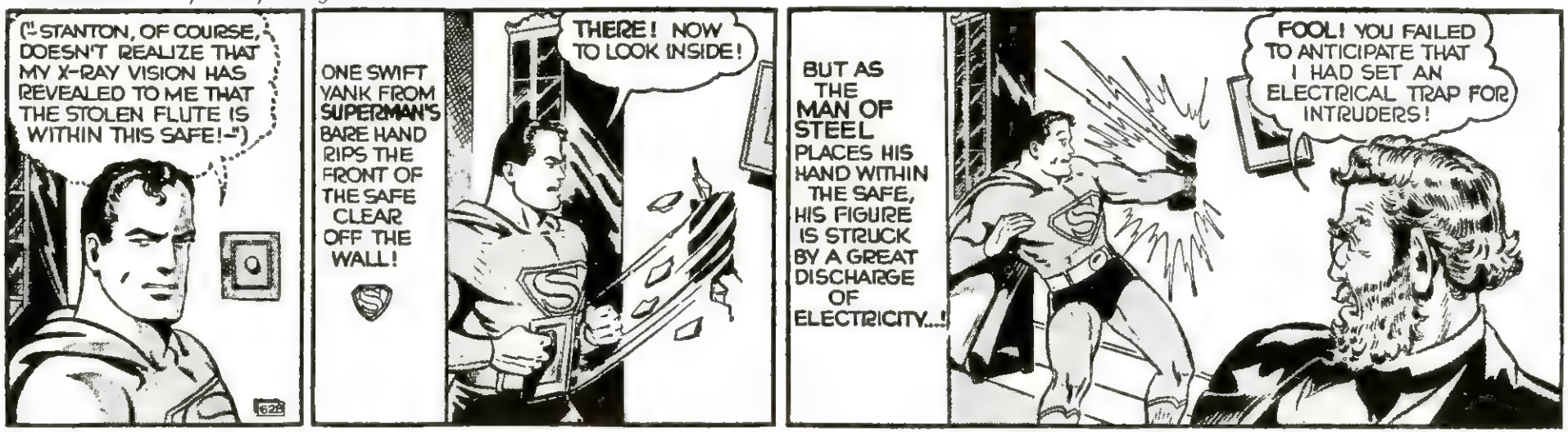
Crashing the Gate

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Too Co-operative!

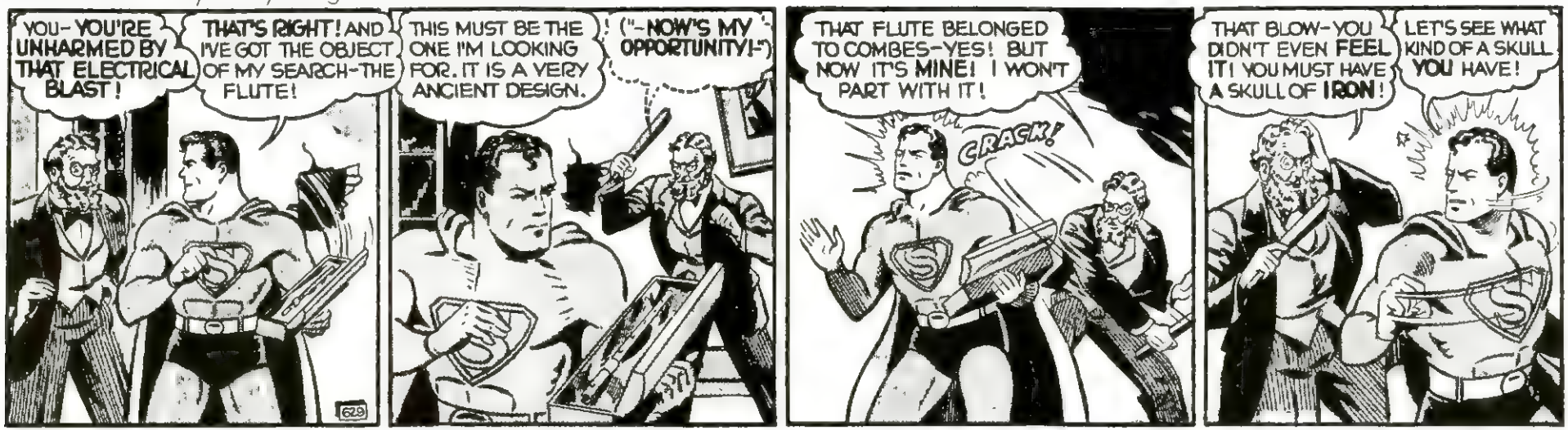
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Mustn't Touch!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Wasted Energy



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Strictly Confidential

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Puzzling Proposition

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

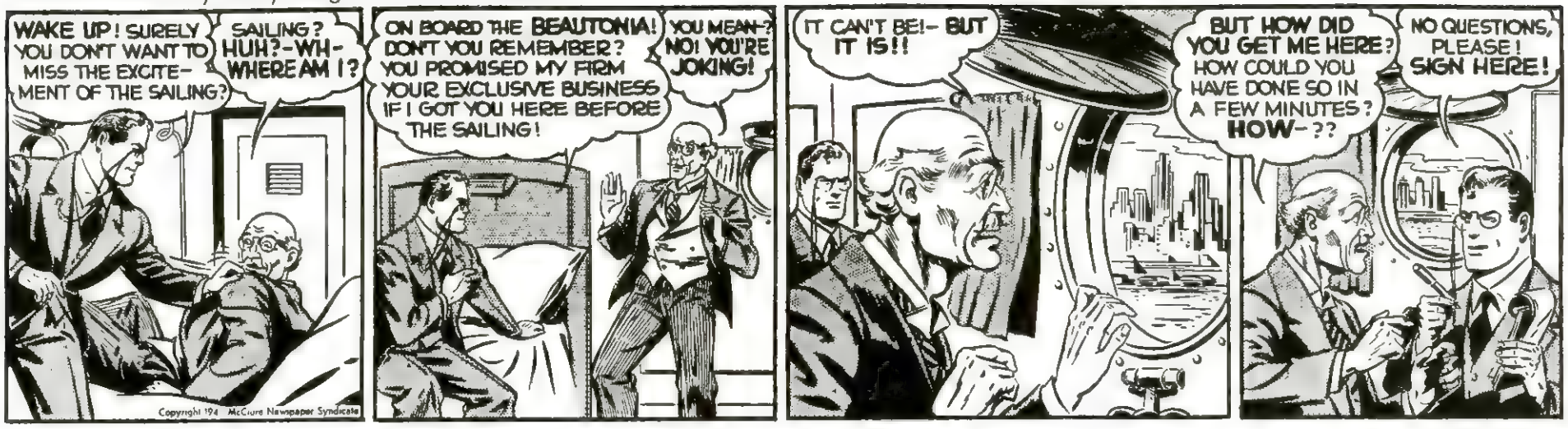
Miracles on Request!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Short Cut

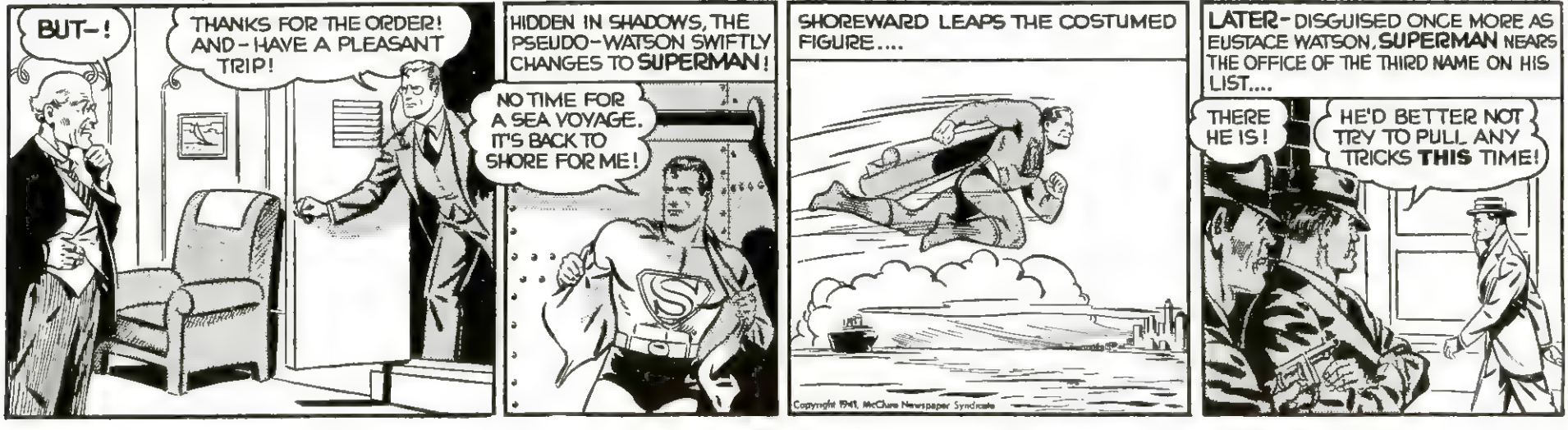
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Sign Here!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Reception Committee



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Kidnaped!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

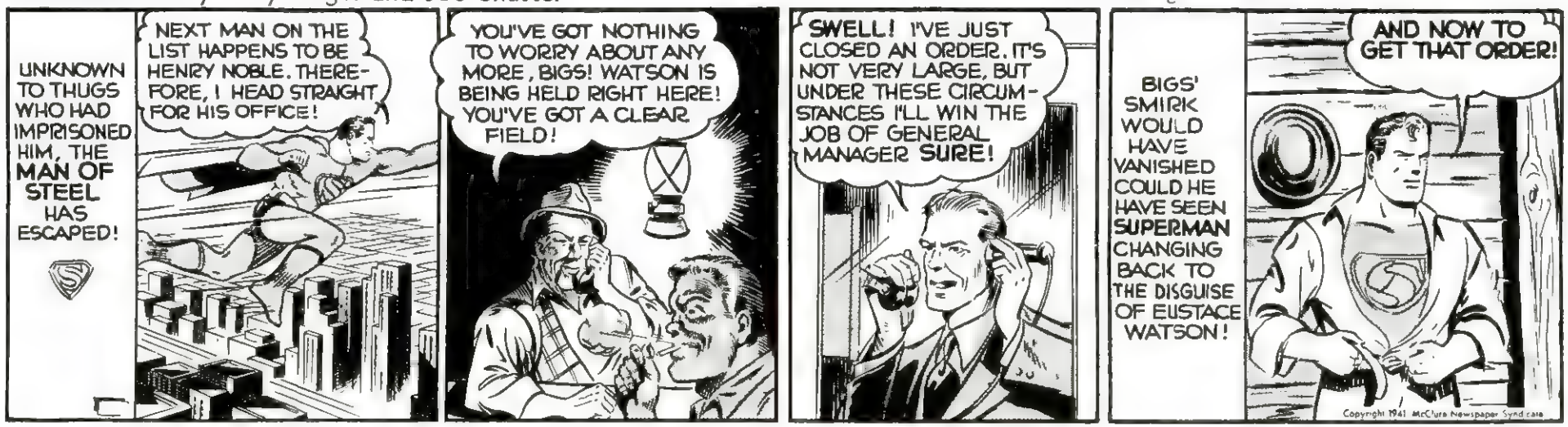
Imprisoned!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Free as a Breeze!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

While Bigs Gloats

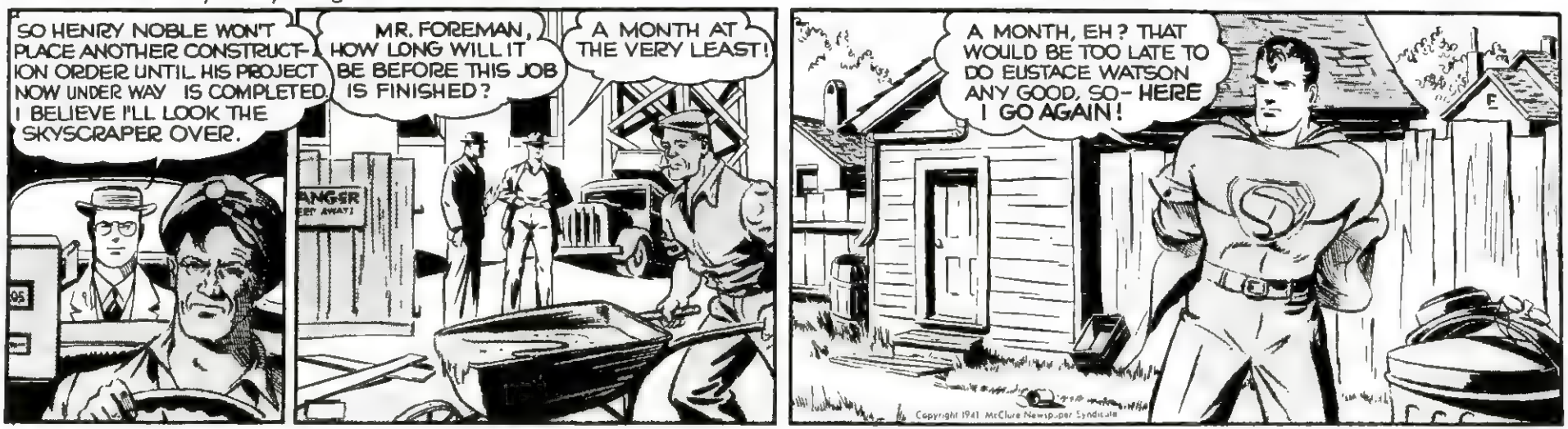


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

"Eustace" Plays a Long-Shot

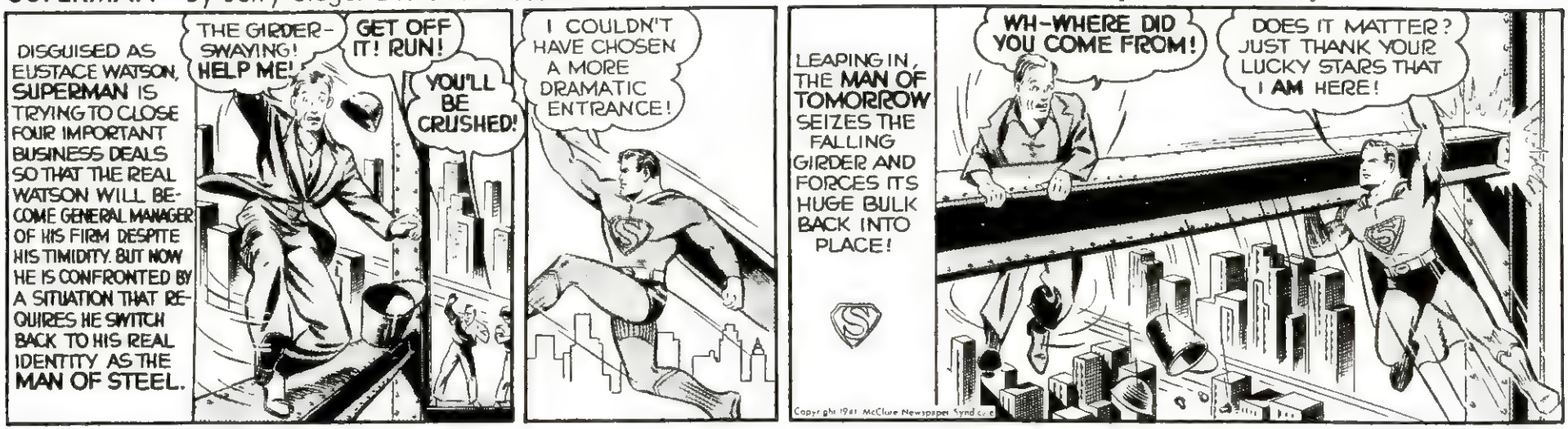
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Time to Lose.



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Explanation Necessary

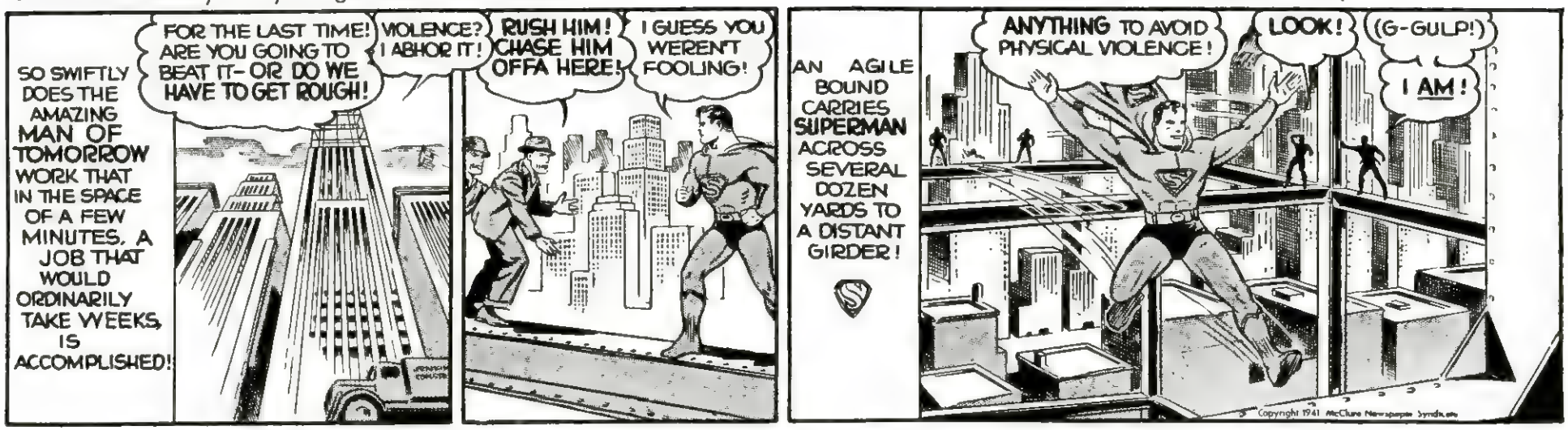


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Just Play, for Superman

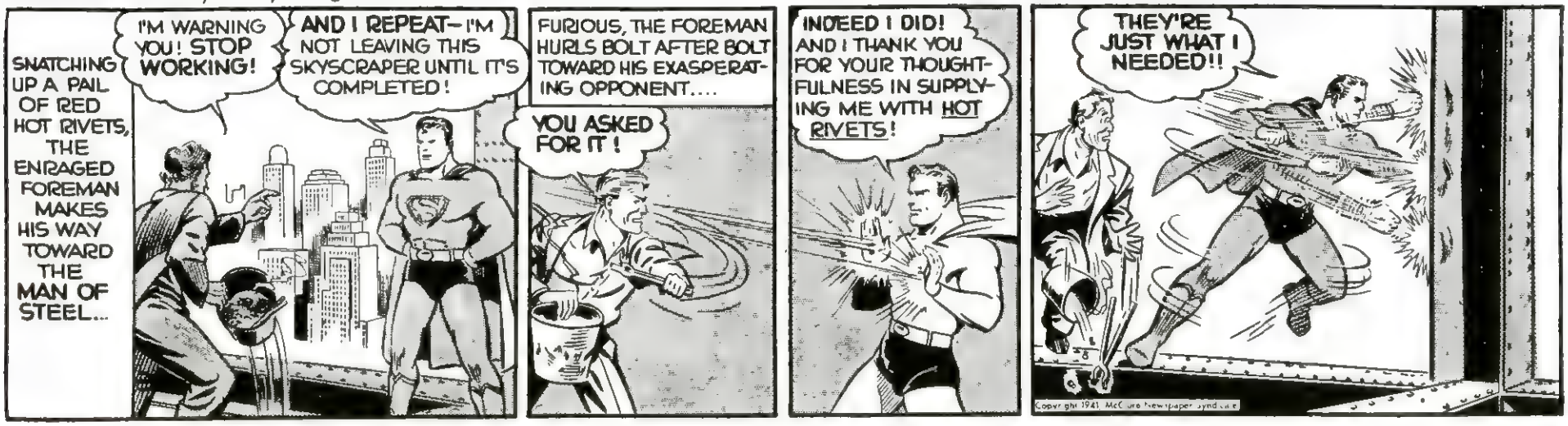
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman Turns the Other Cheek



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Handy Man to Have Around



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman to the Rescue

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

End of Rescue.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Fast Work

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Good News

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Heads Up!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Fancy Meeting You Here!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Bird Has Flown.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

On the Spot

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

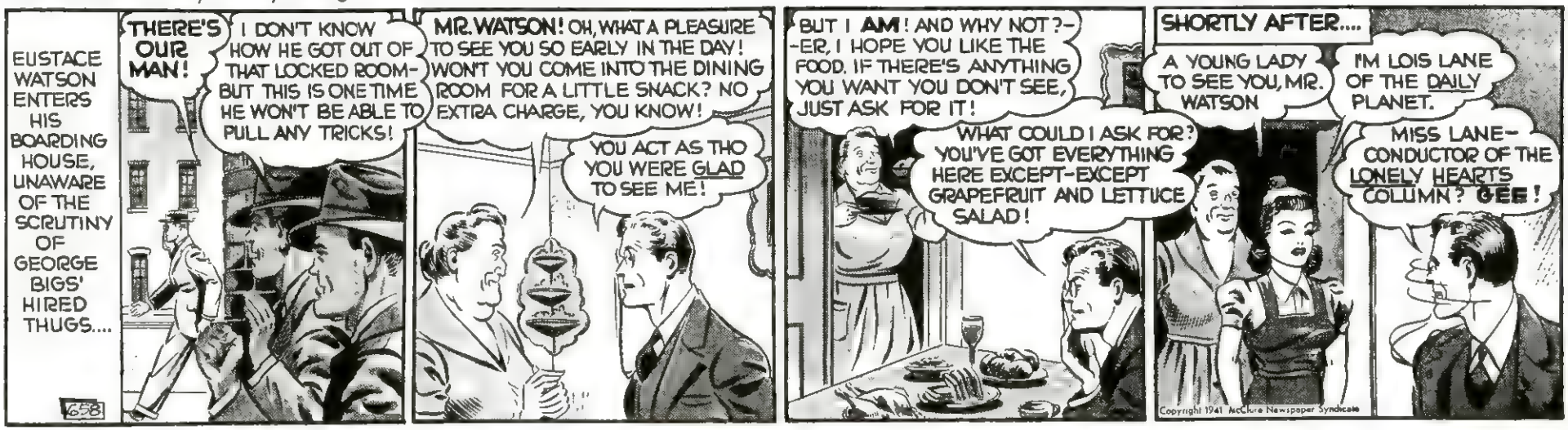
Quick Getaway

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Not to Be Trifled With

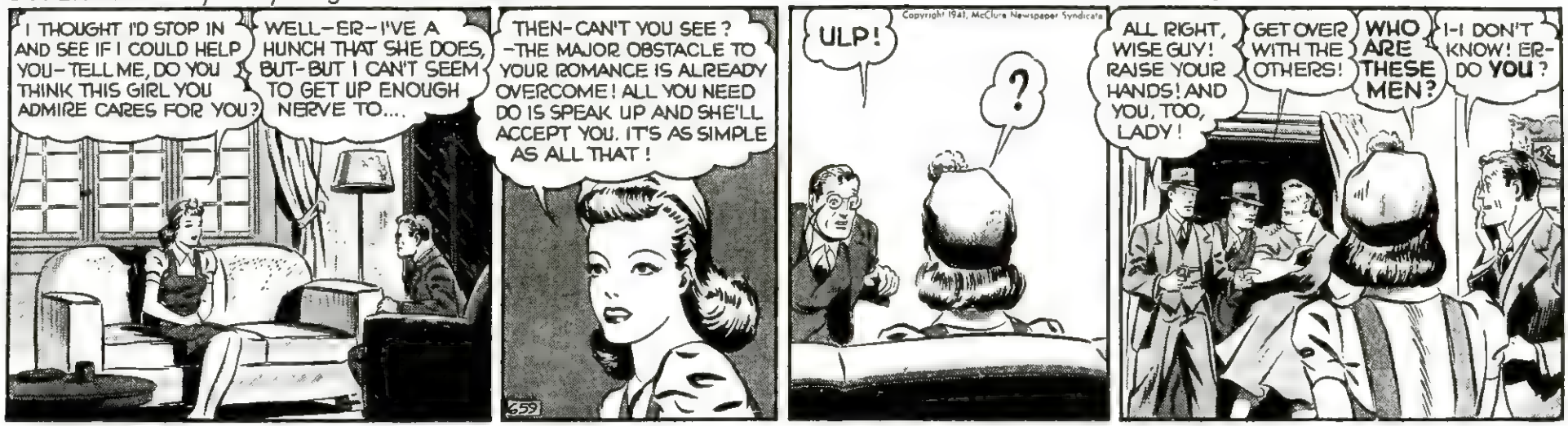
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Lane, in Person!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Rude Interruption

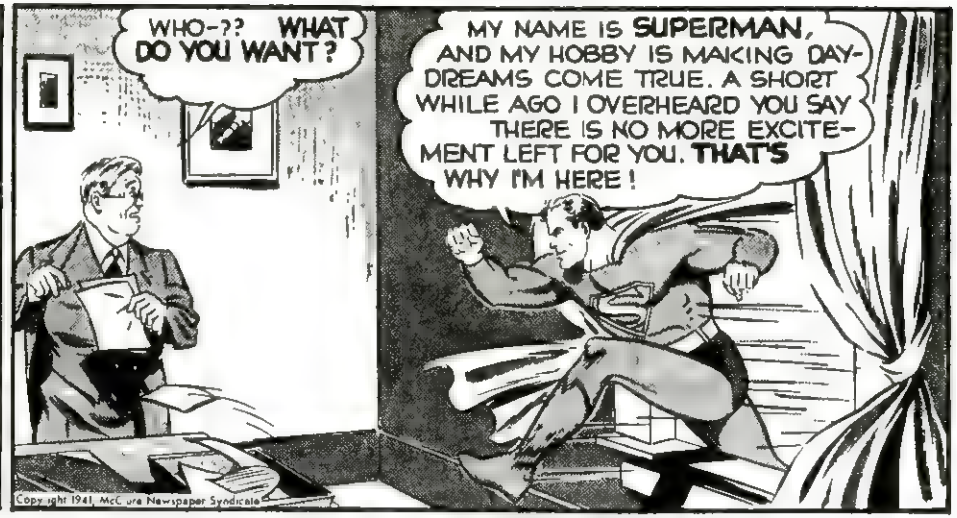


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Sale

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

It's That Man Again



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

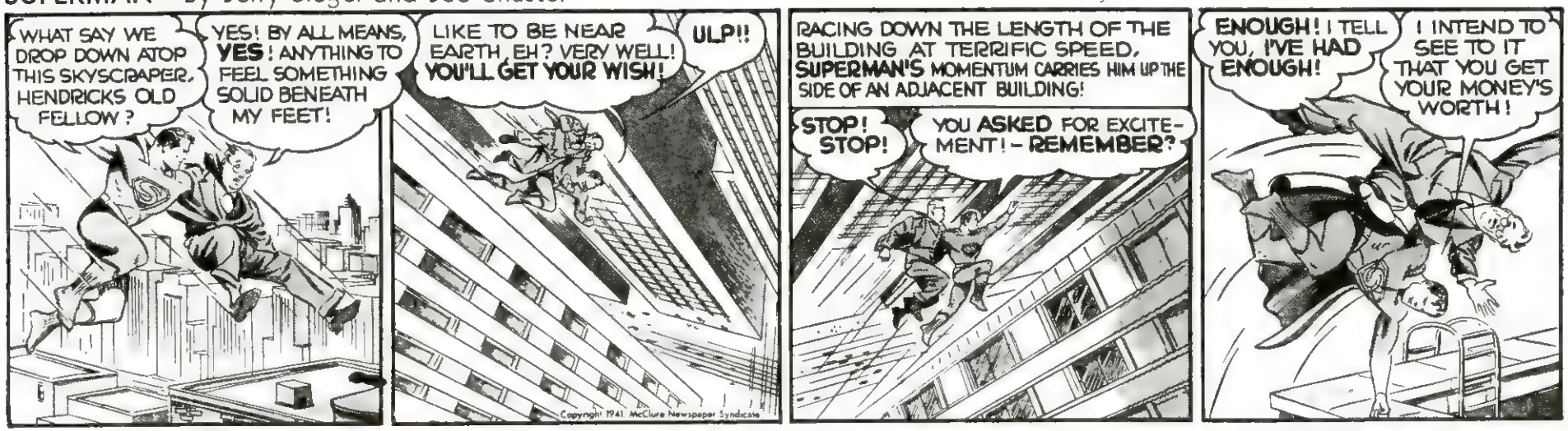
Free Sample

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hendricks Goes for a Ride

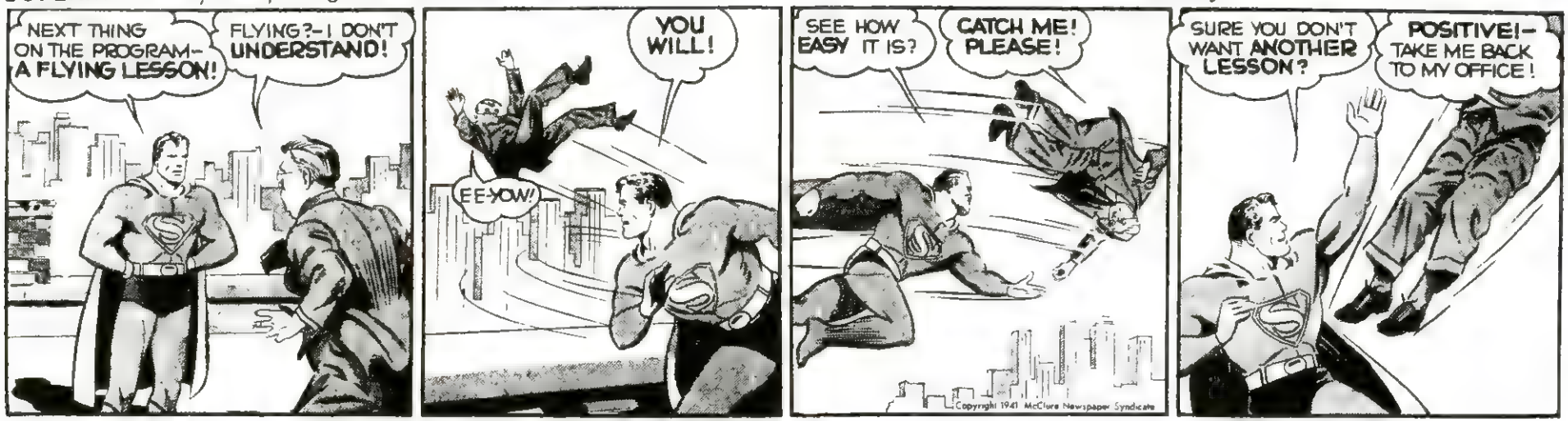
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Satisfaction Guaranteed



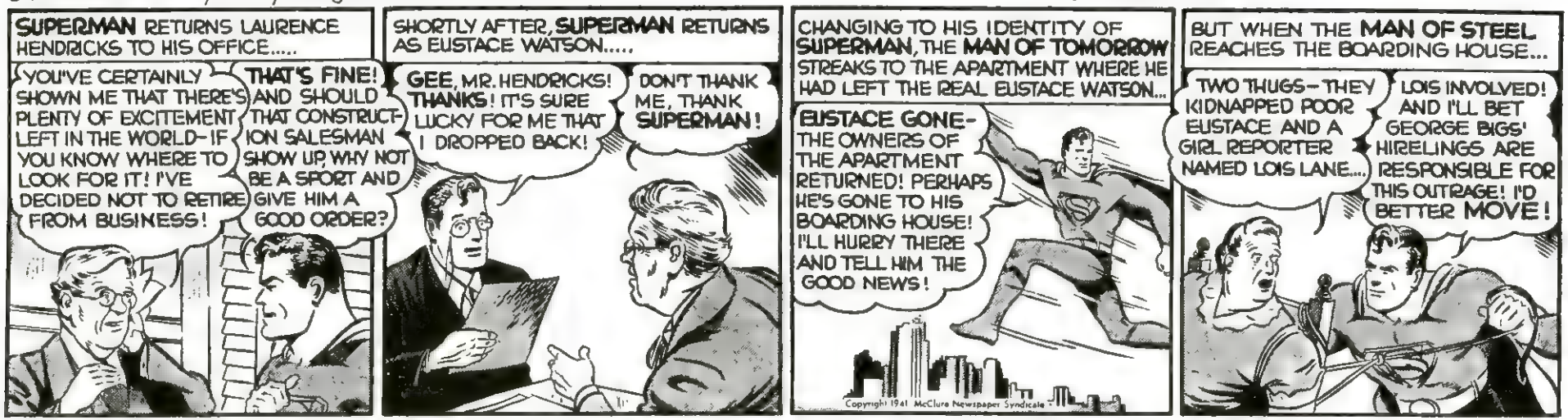
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

He Learns Easily



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Time to Lose

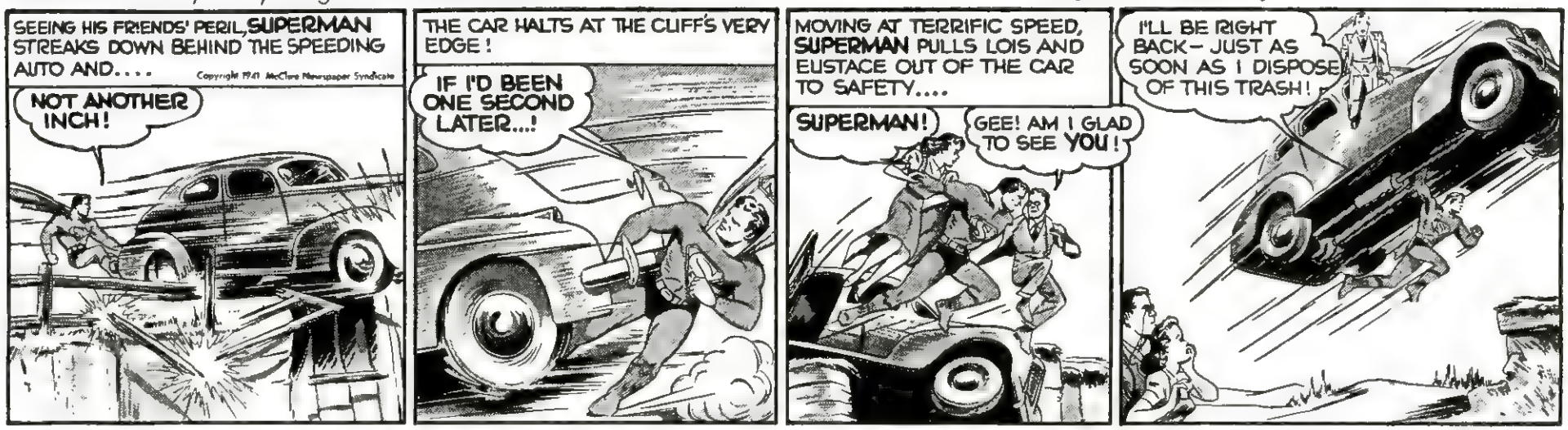


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Big Help

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman Cleans Up

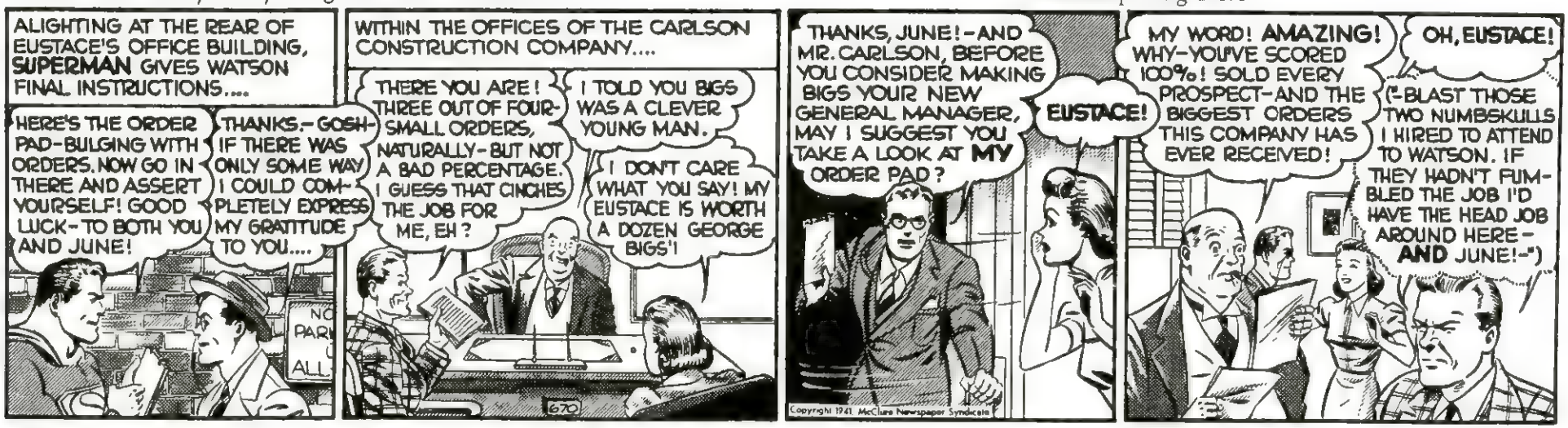


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

In Again—Out Again

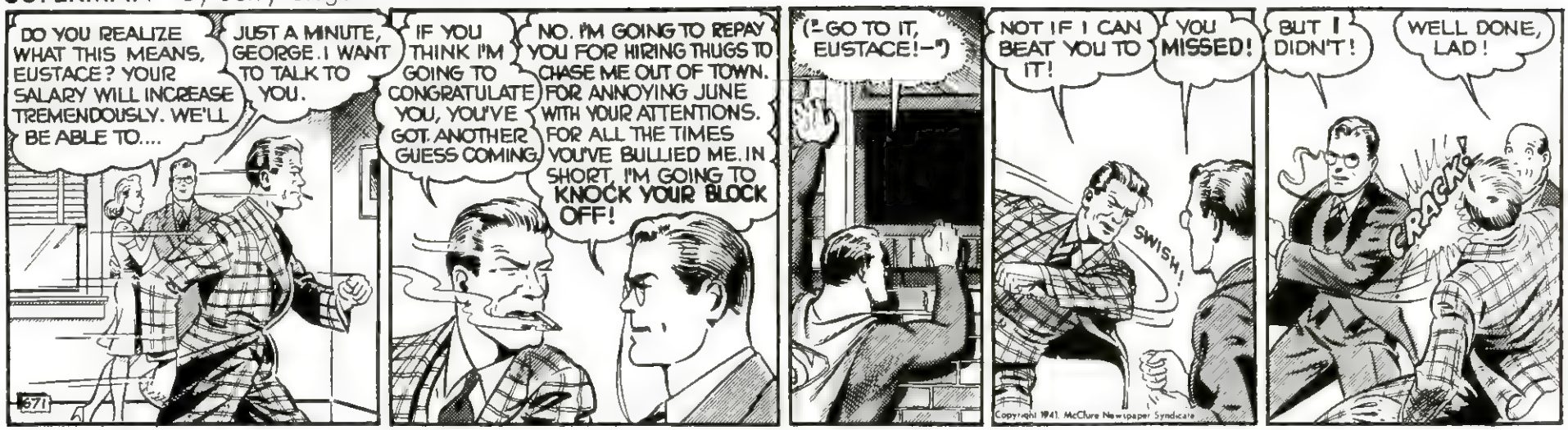
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Conquering Hero



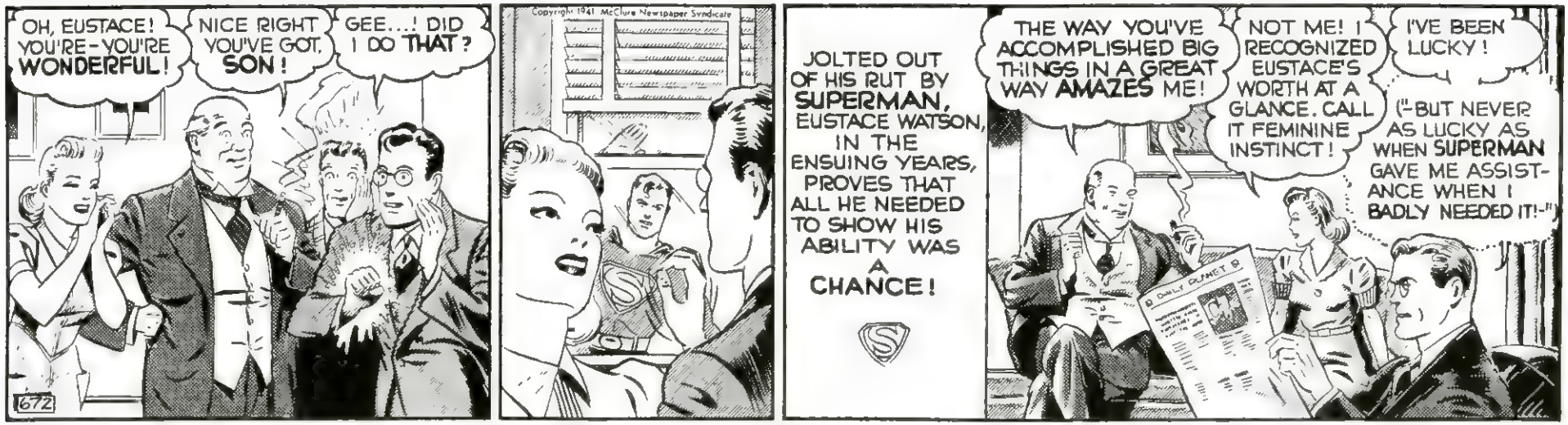
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Attaboy, Eustace!

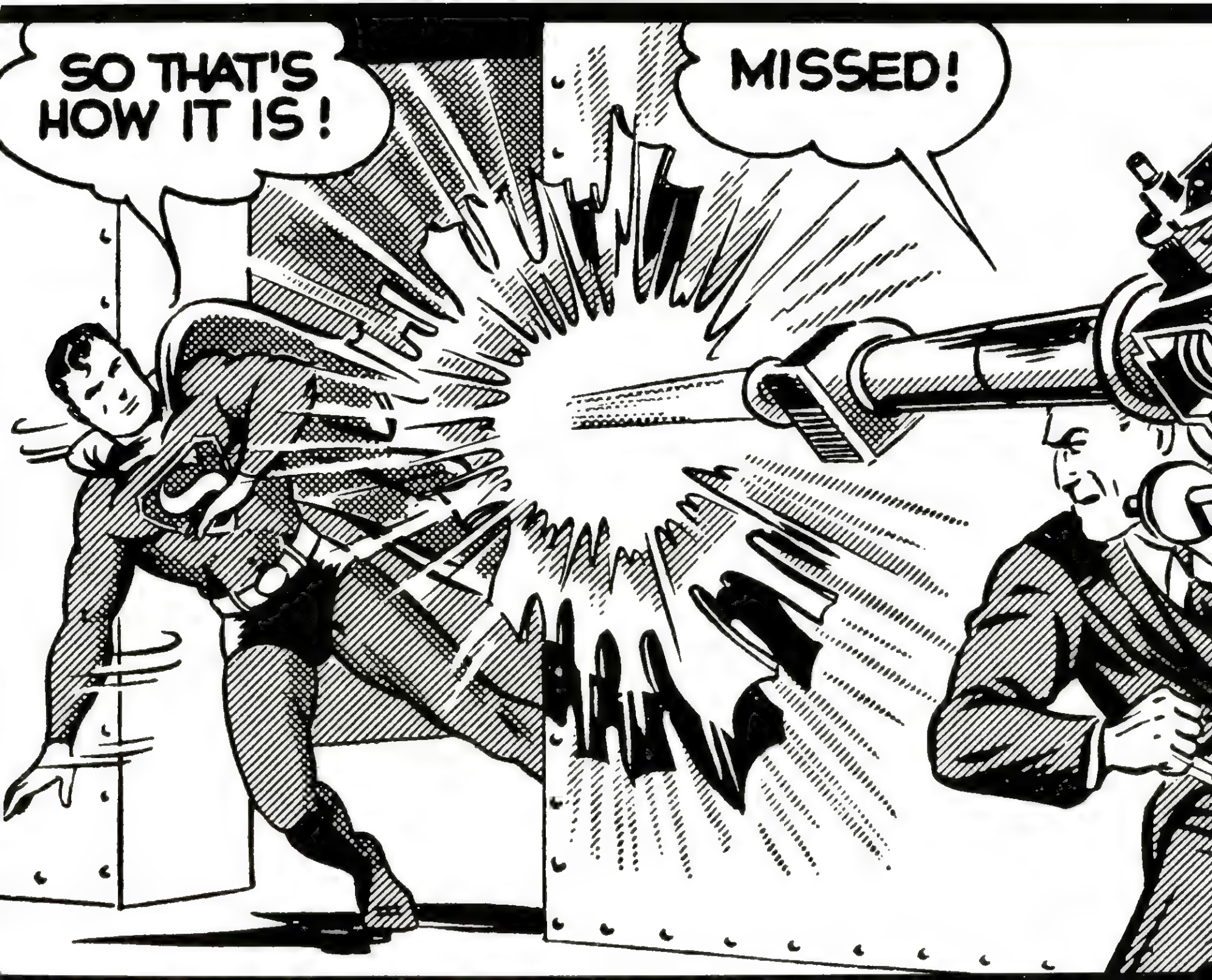


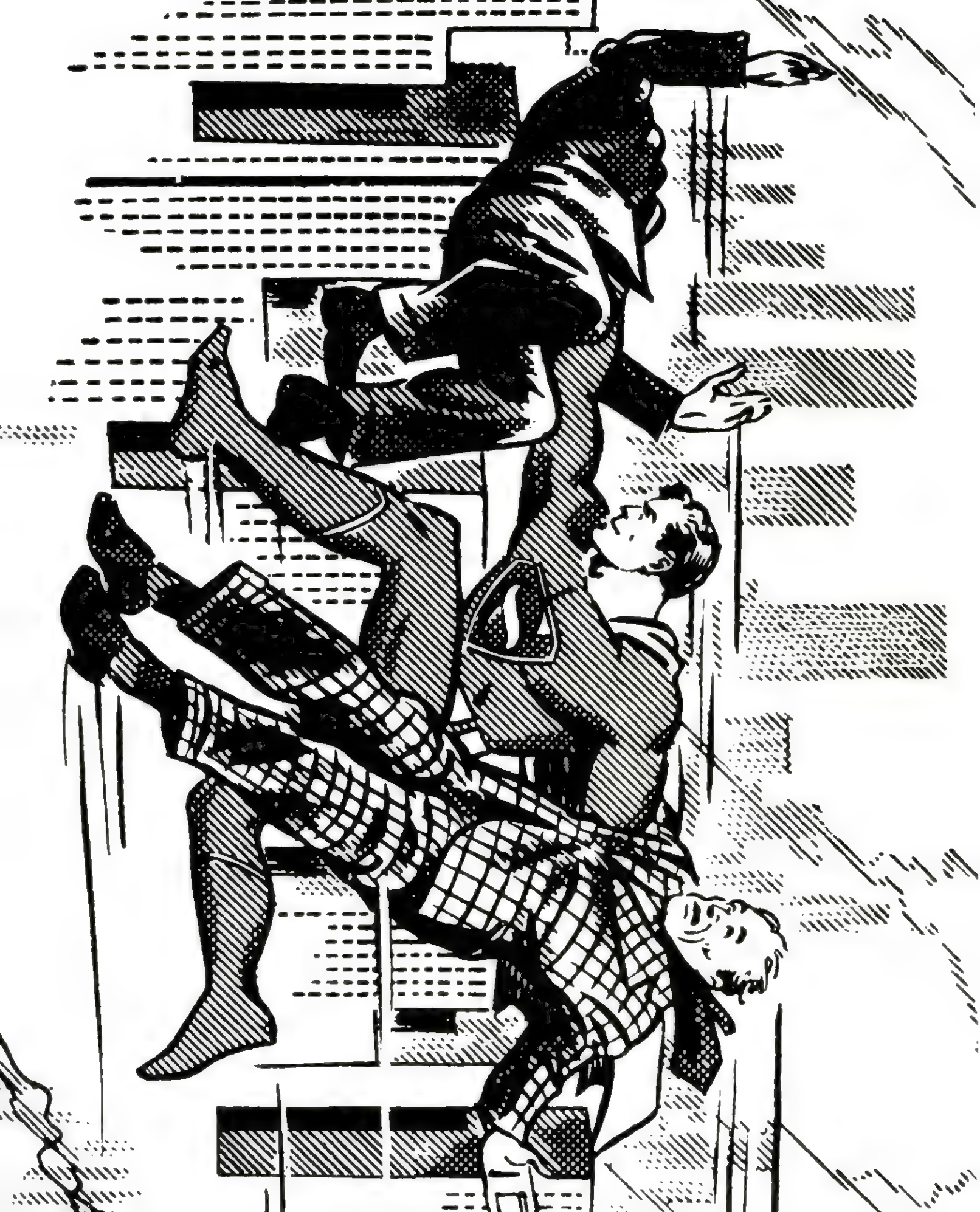
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Happy Ever After



FREE-FREE AT LAST!
WHAT-!?!
YIII-IIII!


SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!
MISSED!



SUPERMAN®

THE DAILIES

VOLUME III: Strips 673-966, 1941-1942

Created by

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

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SUPERMAN GOES HOLLYWOOD

James Vance

In 1941, *Superman* creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster clearly had the movies on their minds. Merchandise featuring their amazing brainchild was leaping off the shelves, the new radio series was becoming a coast-to-coast hit, and their phenomenally popular comic books and newspaper strips seemed to be gaining readers every day. But that mounting success must have seemed like old news to the boys from Cleveland . . . for 1941 was the year that Superman went Hollywood.

Movies figured prominently in two separate stories they created that year—a lengthy Hollywood continuity in the daily newspaper strip, and a ten-page comic book story called "Superman, Matinee Idol" that appeared in *Superman* no. 19 and centered around Clark Kent's efforts to get Lois Lane out of the local bijou before

This page: still from *Superman*, the first of the Fleischer Studios cartoon series (1941). Previous page: Kirk Alyn flew headfirst into the role of Superman.

a sensational new movie about the Man of Steel gave away his secret identity.

What both those stories referred to, of course, was the series of animated theatrical cartoons produced by the Max Fleischer Studios and distributed by Paramount Pictures beginning in September of that year. Still impressive by today's standards, they were state-of-the-art achievements in their time, dynamic and respectful adaptations of which any cartoonist would be proud.

Brothers Max and Dave Fleischer (Max was the producer, Dave the director) were very likely the only men who could have pulled it off. The wild imagination displayed in their *Betty Boop* series, the entertaining violence of their *Popeye* cartoons, and the uneven but ambitious feature-length animated musical *Gulliver's Travels*, had made their scrappy little studio Walt Disney's only serious competition. The trouble was, they didn't want any part of *Superman*—not because they disliked the character, but because they doubted they could do it justice.

Faced with creating characters who were at once the most lifelike in the studio's history, yet not so realistic as to seem out of place among the requisite special effects and fantastic actions, they set their staff to work on elaborate model sheets for each main character (Superman and Clark Kent each had his own), followed by virtually unprecedented test reels, and even more fine-tuning. Care was also taken to ensure that the character designs reflected Joe Shuster's drawing style. Superman's famous curling forelock was in place, of course, but so was the Man of Steel's no-nonsense squint (which no other artist ever quite duplicated), and Shuster's characteristic manner of suggesting noses with triangular shadows. The studio artists added distinctive touches of their own, but the basic foundation for those world-class cartoons had

been laid years before by a young artist living with his parents in Cleveland.

Heralded by colorful posters screaming such superlatives as "Amazing!" and "Startling!," the first cartoon, simply titled *Superman,* opened in September 1941. The audiences and critics of the day loved the cartoon; it was even nominated for an Academy Award. A total of seventeen *Superman* cartoons were released over a two-year period; even after Paramount wrested the studio out of the Fleischers' hands in 1942, the quality remained as high as ever.

By 1943, the box office appeal of the cartoons had begun to dwindle, and Paramount canceled the series. Evidently, Hollywood believed that the Man of Steel's best days were behind him, and efforts to ink a deal for a live-action color feature film met with no success. That left only serials—but the market for these action-packed cliffhangers, which were released to theaters in weekly installments, had begun to shrink, and producing one in color was out of the question. A deal was signed with Columbia Pictures in 1947.

When box office revenues for serials began to decline, Columbia had begun farming them out to independent producer Sam Katzman. The studio's serials had always been of uneven quality, and under Katzman, they had slipped further still. Somehow, though, much of the 1948 serial *Superman* managed to rise above Katzman's usual standards, primarily due to the producer's decision to cast Kirk Alyn in the leading role. Diminutive Noel Neill came aboard as Lois Lane, white-haired character actor Pierre Watkin was signed to play Perry White, and snub-nosed Tommy Bond (who as a child actor had played Butch in the *Our Gang* comedies) was cast as Jimmy Olsen. Each was a felicitous choice. In Neill's case, though it wasn't apparent at the time, it would prove to be as momentous a career move

Superman confronts his imposter in the Fleischer Studios' cartoon *Superman in Showdown* (1942).

Superman saves the day again in Fleischer Studios' cartoon *Superman in the Volcano* (1942).

as Alyn's; replacing actress Phyllis Coates, Neill would spend most of the 1950's playing Lois on television.

For all its shortcomings, *Superman* is propelled by a genuine sense of wonder and spirit of fun. The serial was booked into a number of first-run theaters, playing at night as well as matinees—the first cliffhanger to enjoy such popularity since the original *Flash Gordon* twelve years before—ultimately becoming the highest-grossing serial of all time. The owners of Superman finally had the hit film they'd been pursuing for a decade.

But this wasn't just a standard serial, for it was about Superman—and when the camera was on Kirk Alyn, the film soared above the mundane. Alyn's Superman was a larger-than-life figure who clearly delighted in the edge his super powers gave him over the bad guys. The serial was filled with stunts, many of which the star performed himself. The script called for Superman to carry Lois and Jimmy out of danger, and Alyn can clearly be seen hustling up flights of stairs or out of burning buildings with an actor under each arm. He was in danger several times during the filming—while shooting one scene, he was nearly fried when a sparking prop sent an electrical charge arcing into his metal belt buckle; for Superman's first appearance, he had to kneel next to a railroad track while a train sped by so quickly that it could have sucked him under the wheels. Alyn's willingness to hurl himself headlong into the part could be read on the screen, adding a quality of boyish enthusiasm to the heroic swagger he affected in the role.

Kirk Alyn as Superman

Superman (Kirk Alyn) with Lois Lane (Noel Neill) in the background.

In planning the promotion of the film, Katzman decided to keep Alyn's identity a secret from the public. In posters and even the filmed credits, he's identified simply as Superman. The press releases, in fact, stated that since no actor could possibly duplicate the Man of Steel's abilities, Superman would be playing himself. Latter-day fans and critics have expressed outrage over the low opinion Katzman must have held for the intelligence of his audience, and the unfairness of the arrangement to Alyn, but it's more likely that the producer and the public who went to see the serials were sharing a joke that the fans, in their earnestness, just don't get.

Thanks to the professionalism of veteran serial director Spencer Gordon Bennet, wise casting decisions by producer Katzman, and especially the stirring performance by Kirk Alyn as the Man of Steel, Superman was finally established as a draw in Hollywood. For all his success on radio, in department stores, and even as a newspaper feature, nowhere outside of comic books has Superman been as successful as he's been on the screen . . . just as Siegel and Shuster knew he would, all those years ago.

The sequence of daily strips that occupies most of this volume would in itself have made a pretty good serial. In the strip's longest continuity so far, Siegel and ghost artist Jack Burnley devoted eight months to spinning out an episodic tale of a contract taken out on Superman's life.

The story begins on a familiar note, with Clark Kent investigating the kind of shady businessman that Siegel loved to skewer. As it turns out, though, this familiar ground is merely the jumping-off point for a

Superman (Kirk Alyn) and Jimmy Olsen (Tommy Bond).

complicated melodrama that demonstrates just how far the young writer had come in handling a daily continuity.

While rarely dull, Siegel's earliest dailies suffered at times from erratic pacing—but by his third year on the feature, he was firmly in control. Despite the convoluted twists and turns of his storyline, here he smoothly manages the comings and goings of a large cast of characters and the maintenance of a pair of important human interest subplots, all the while skillfully keeping Superman at center stage.

Siegel has a lot of fun with all the blood and thunder in this continuity, upping the stakes a bit more as each new villain enters to take a shot at the Man of Steel with increasingly lethal schemes. Some of the dangers faced by Superman and Lois are quite ingenious, leading to cliffhangers the equal of anything produced during the golden age of Hollywood serials.

The most interesting elements are the related subplots revolving around a charge of murder that haunts Superman throughout the story. Though Siegel gives short shrift to the effect that accusation has on his hero, he mines it for all it's worth in the character of Lil Danvers, a big-game hunter called "The Blonde Tigress" who'd joined the hunt for personal reasons. Determined to bring Superman down, yet unable to ignore her growing admiration for him, the ambiguous Danvers is one of Siegel's most successful characterizations.

Though an unusual number of deaths occur in this extended storyline, there's also a fair amount of whimsy. The "Deadly Dwarf" sequence is mostly tongue-in-cheek melodrama from beginning to end. It had been only a matter of months after Superman's premiere appearance in *Action Comics* before competing super-guy strips began turning up in other publishers' magazines. The most successful of these by far was Fawcett's Captain Marvel, who starred in his own serial released by Republic Pictures in 1941. There's a moment in the "pseudo-Superman" episode in which the Man of Steel slugs a Superman impersonator with a snarled, "You—like all my other imitators—have had this coming for a long time!" . . . a line that must have had particular resonance at a time when audiences were lining up for the latest chapter of the *Adventures of Captain Marvel* serial at their local theater.

The final continuity in this volume takes the Man of Steel to Hollywood to solve a fairly standard mystery that's enlivened by its location. Surely conceived as a tie-in to the new Fleischer cartoons, the story spends a lot more time rhapsodizing over the notion of seeing Superman in the movies than figuring out who's been trying to sabotage production at Mammoth Film Studios.

Making use of typical Hollywood gags (and, no doubt, a few impressions picked up during the negotiations for the Superman cartoons and serials), Siegel constructed a lightweight but solid continuity that placed Clark Kent in the same position Kirk Alyn would occupy years later—playing Superman in the movies, and unable to tell the world who he really is. It may have been a little self-indulgent on their part, but it's hard to fault Siegel and Shuster for feeling as though they'd hit the big time in the year Superman went Hollywood.

Opposite: Superman (Kirk Alyn) carries Lois Lane (Noel Neill) and Jimmy Olsen (Tommy Bond) to safety through a shower of sparks. Overleaf: Superman "encounters" the Blonde Tigress.

YOU SPANKED ME! NO ONE CAN DO THAT TO ME—AND GET AWAY WITH IT!
WELL, I DID—AND I'M LEAVING RIGHT NOW!

I'LL—!
YOU OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT TEMPER!

OH, HOW I HATE HIM! IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY I COULD HURT HIM, CRUSH HIM, DESTROY HIM—!
Copyright 1941, McClure Newspaper Syndicate

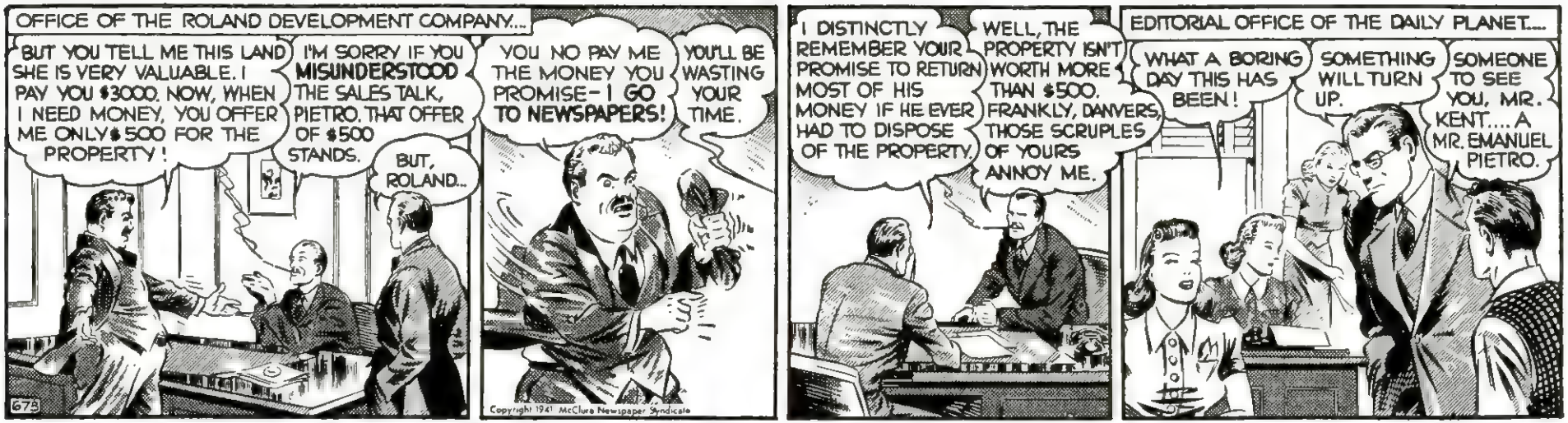
BUT JUST THE SAME I'VE GOT TO ADMIT HE'S QUITE A MAN ! TOO BAD HE AND I ARE FOES.... I COULD GO FOR HIM IN A BIG WAY !

EPISODE TWENTY

THE LEAGUE TO DESTROY SUPERMAN

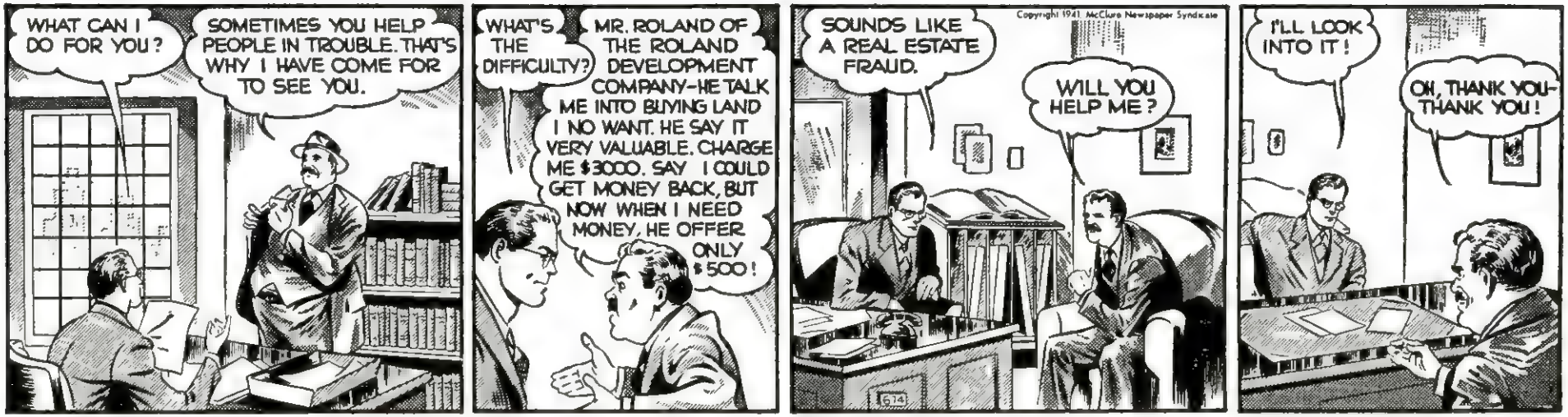
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Sharper



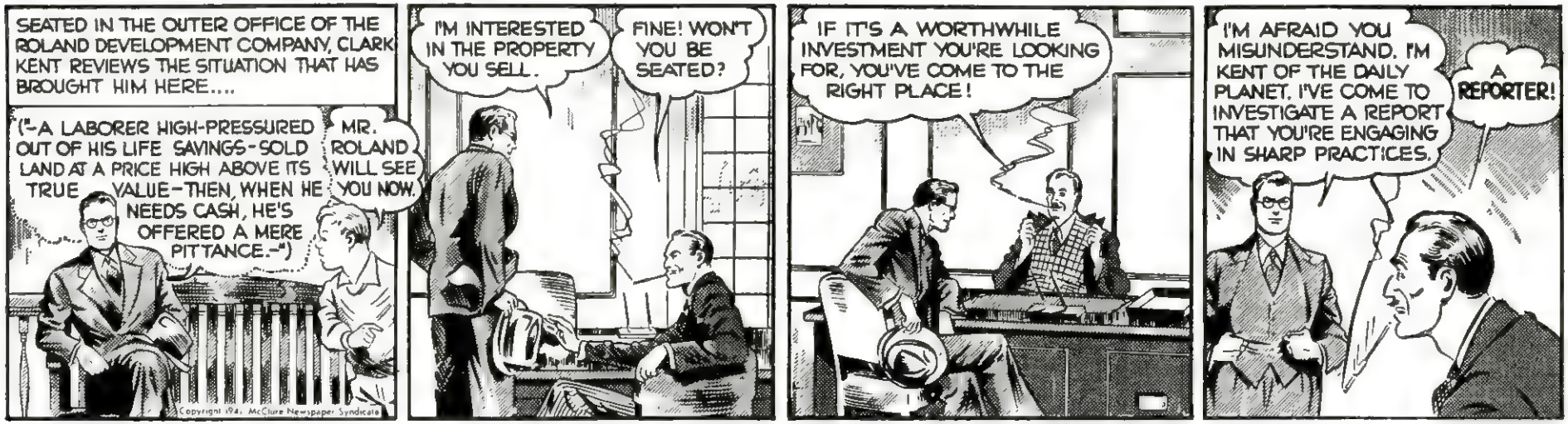
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Pietro Finds a Champion



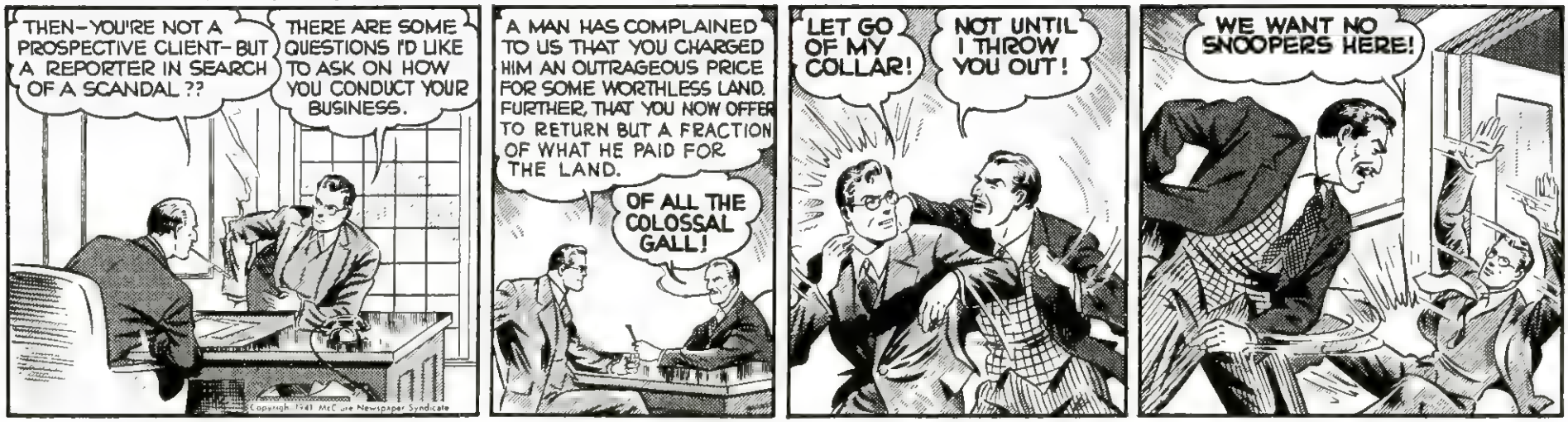
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Wasted Sales-Talk



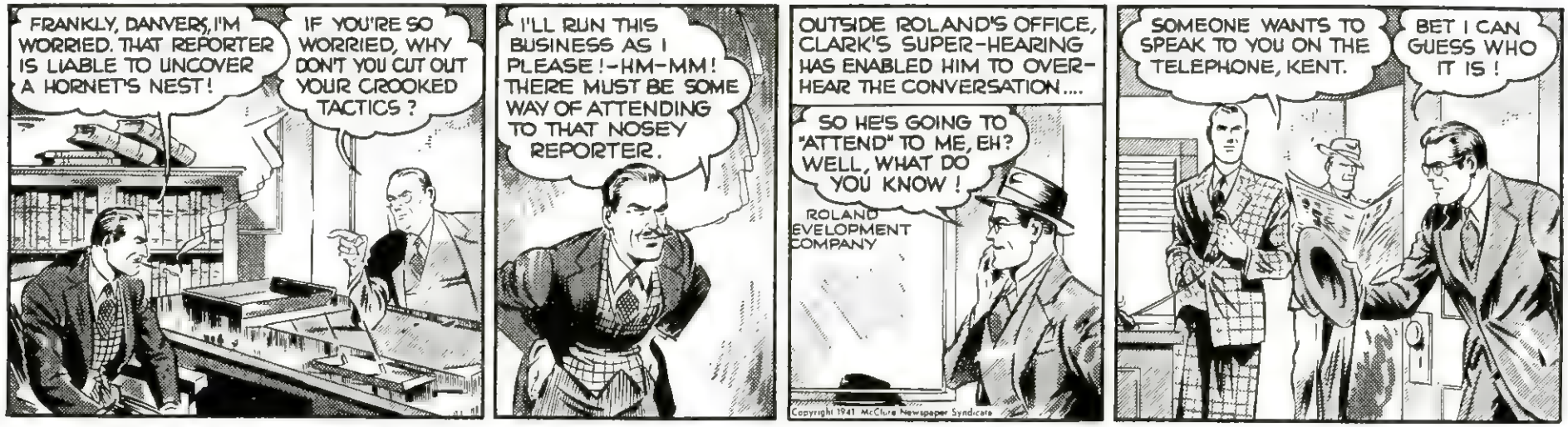
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

That's Different



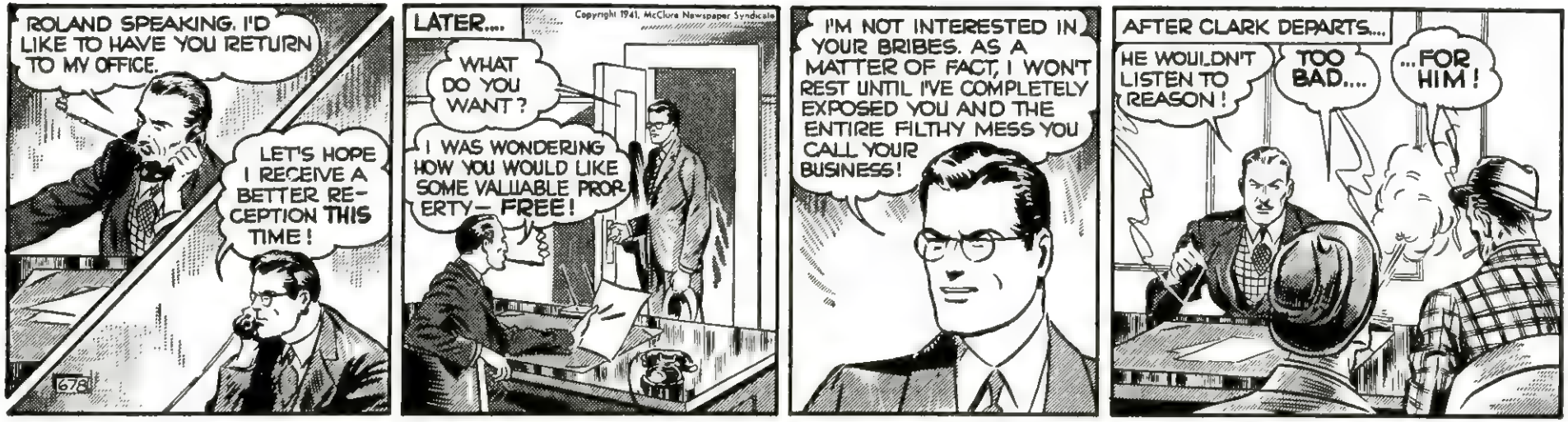
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Psychic



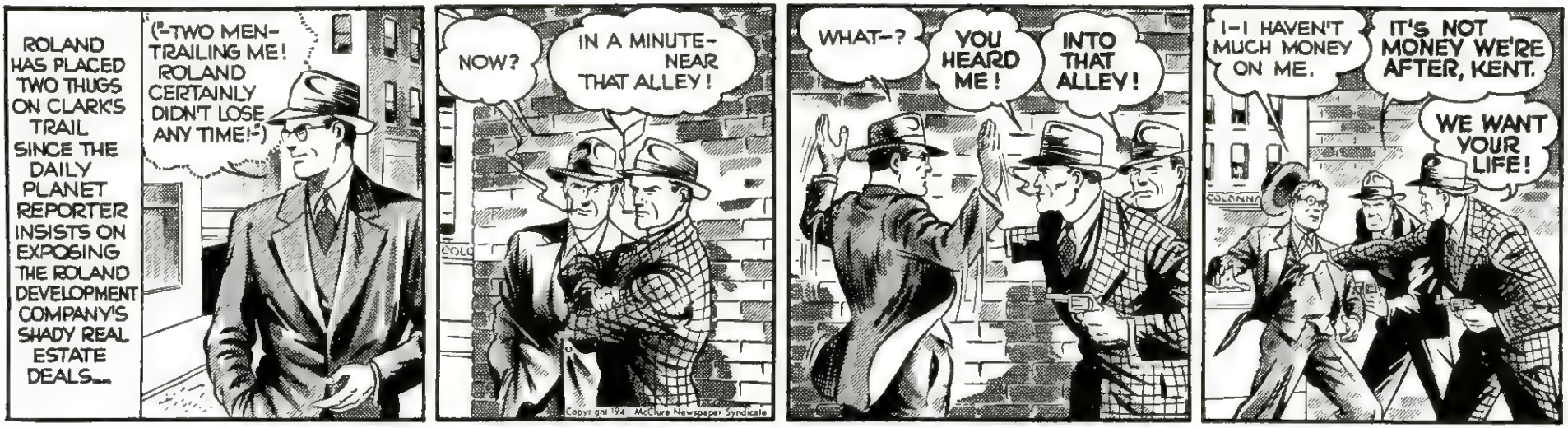
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Bribe That Failed



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Cornered!

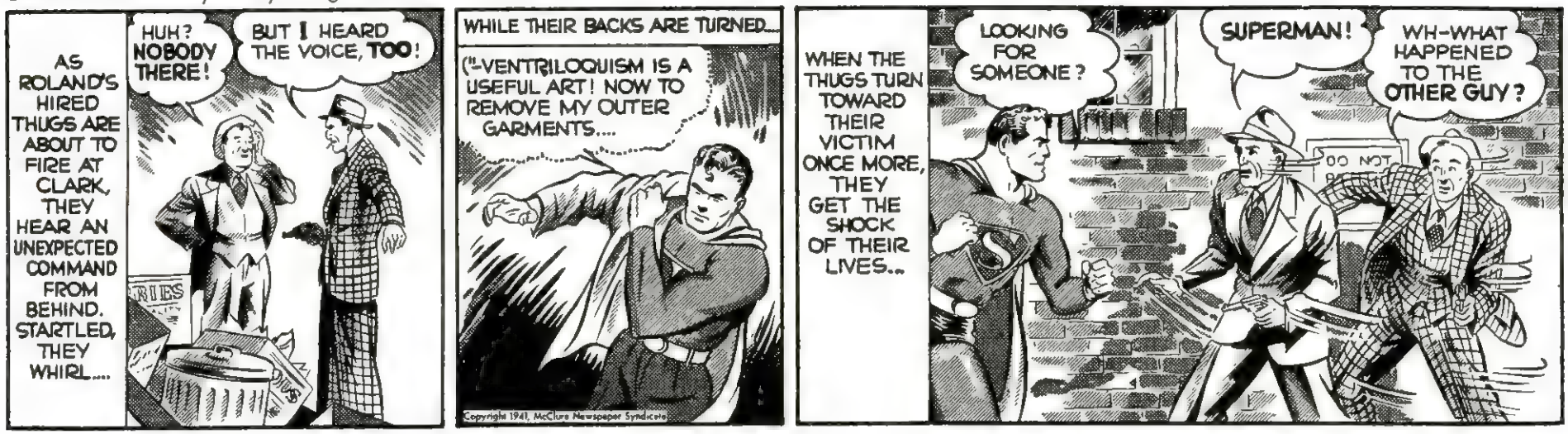


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Voice

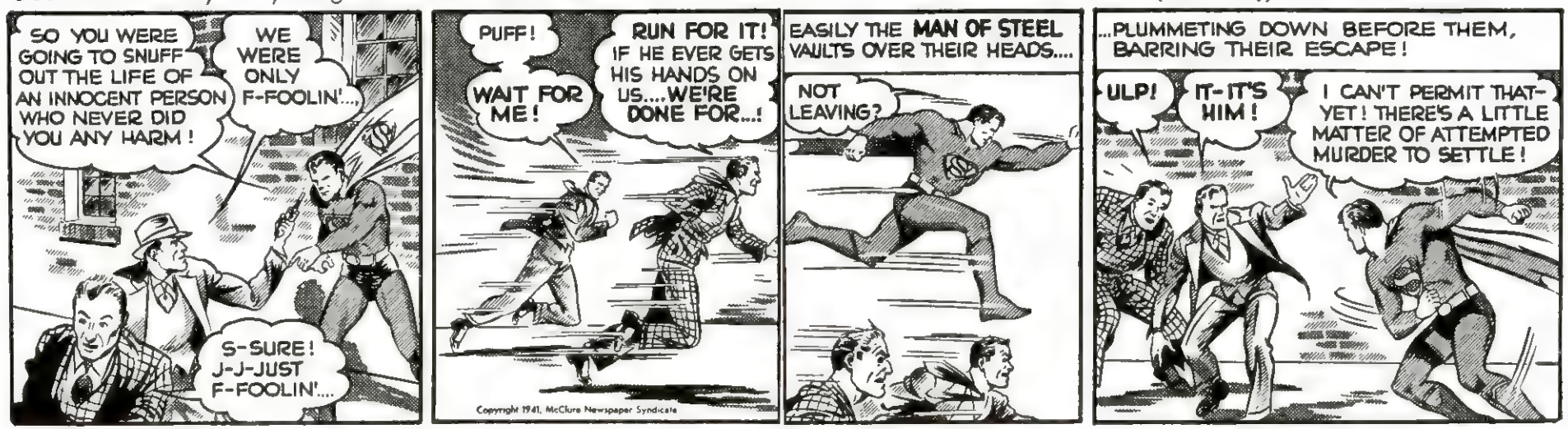
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Presto!



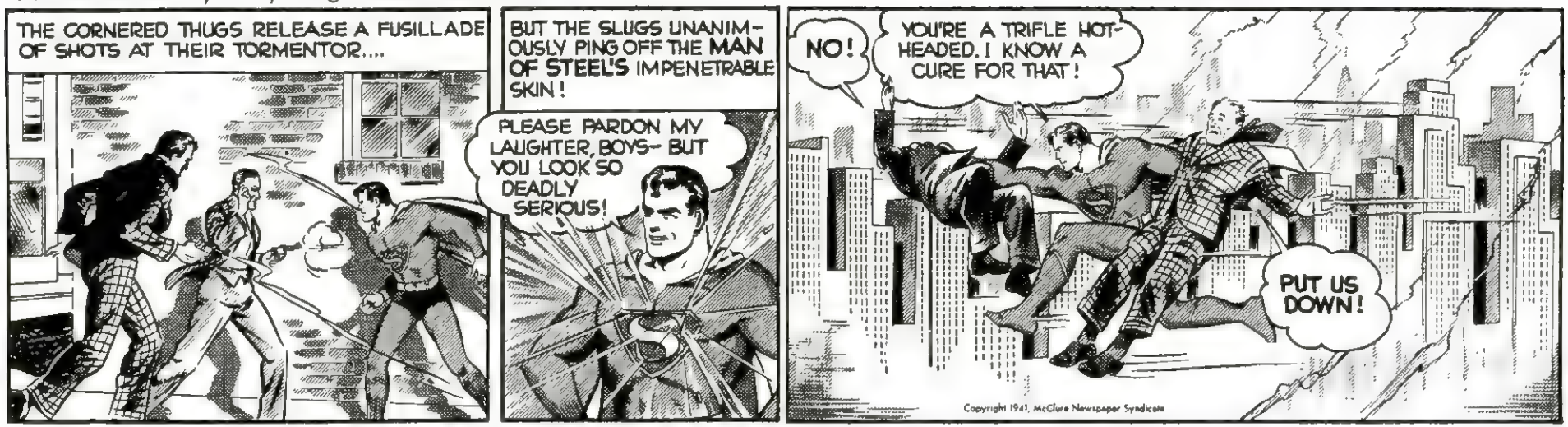
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Can't Shake Him Off



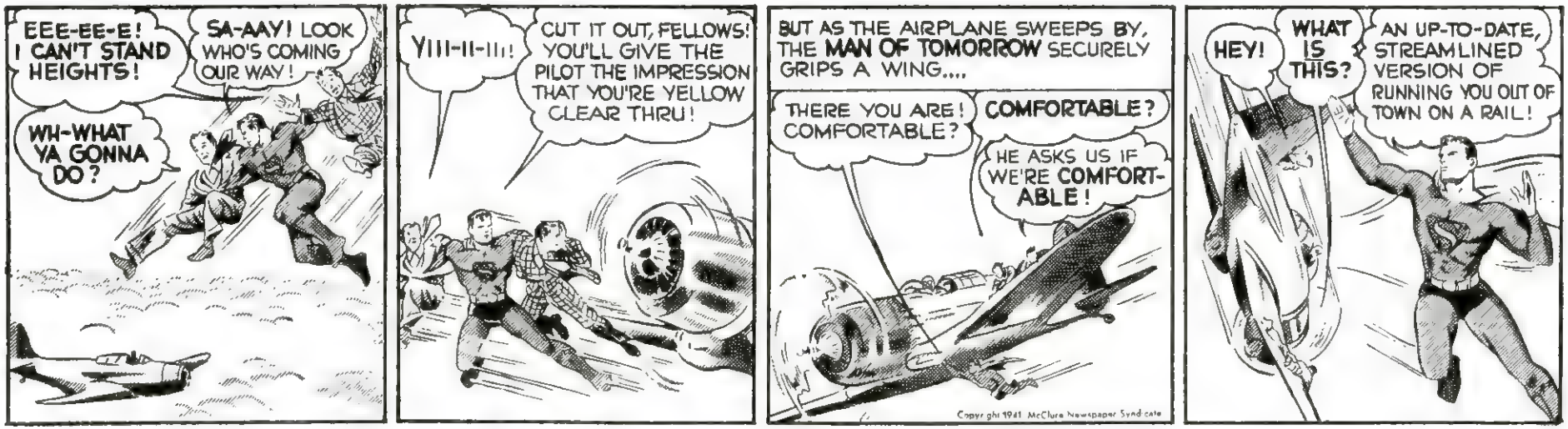
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Up—And Away!



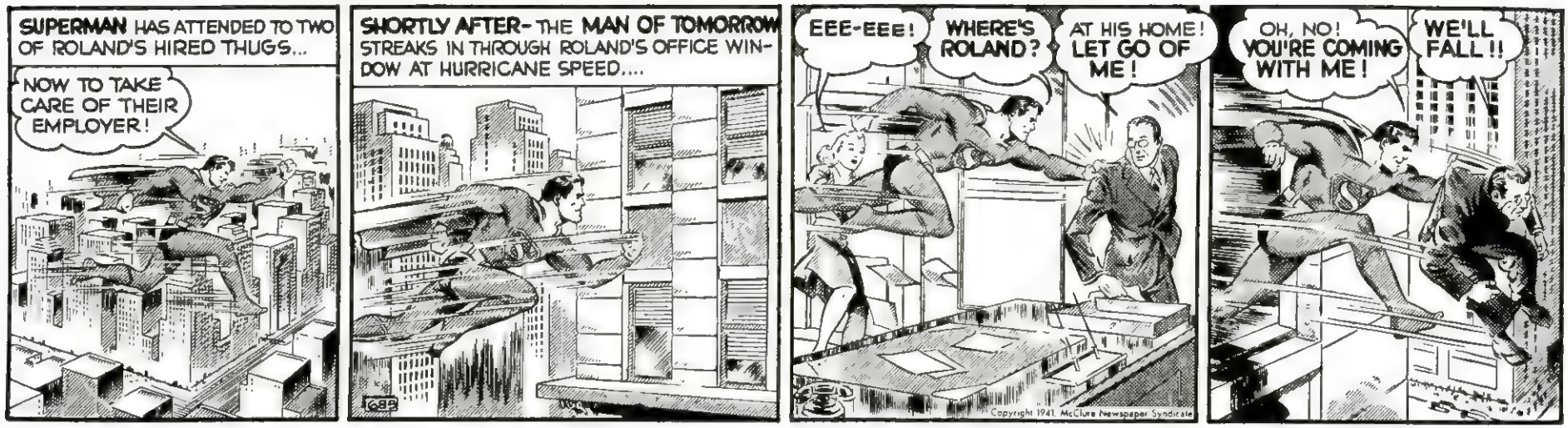
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Bum's Rush



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

An Intruder

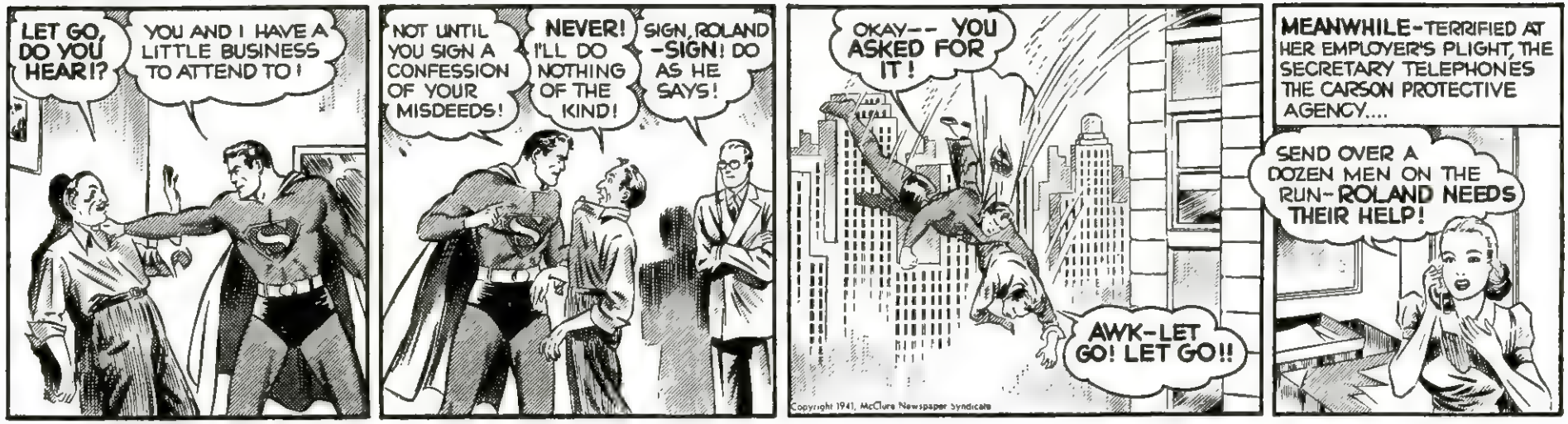


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Little Late

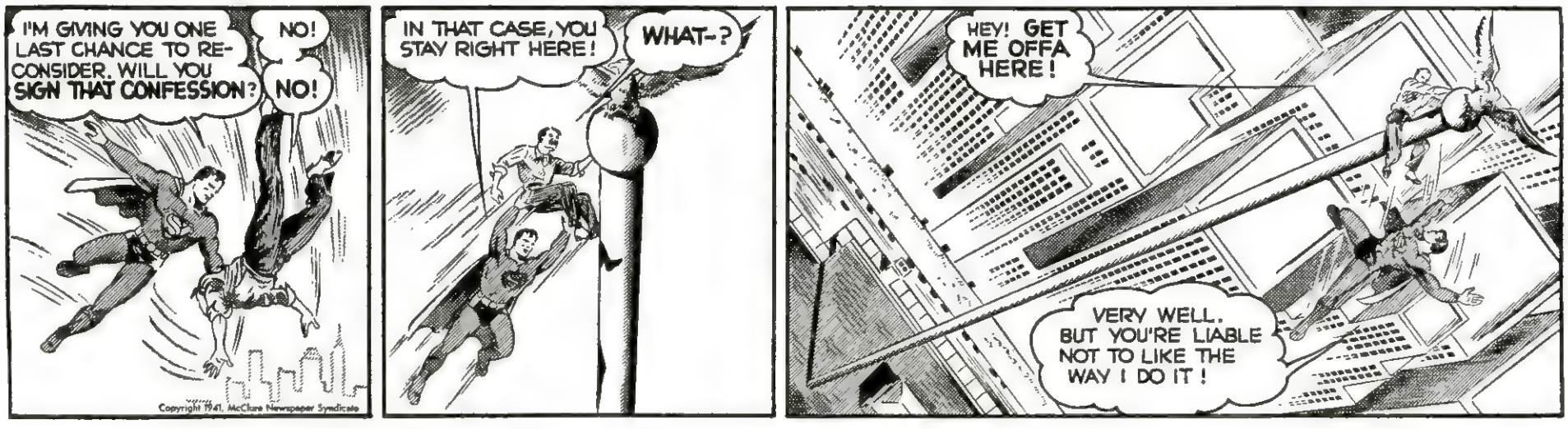
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

He Asked for It



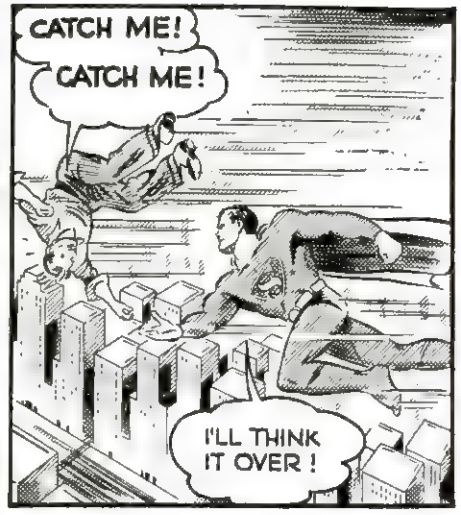
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Flagpole Sitter



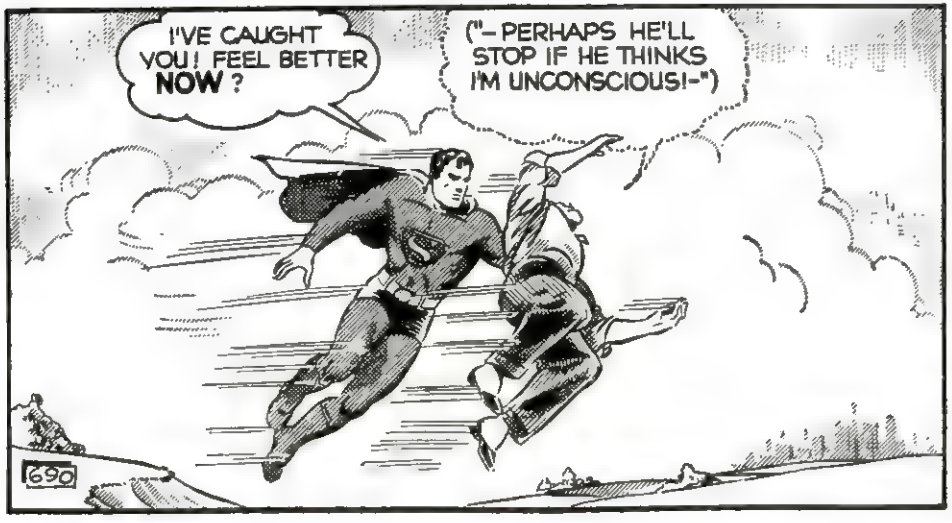
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

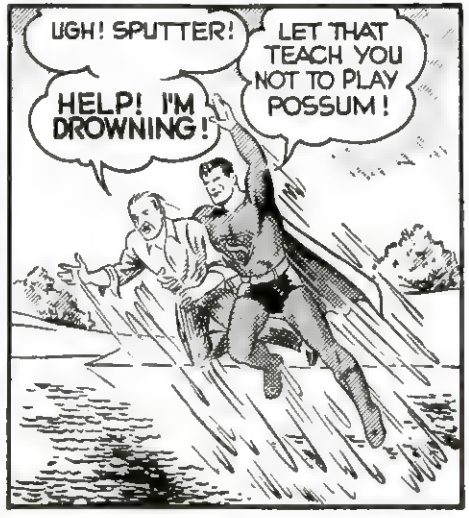
Whooosh!!!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

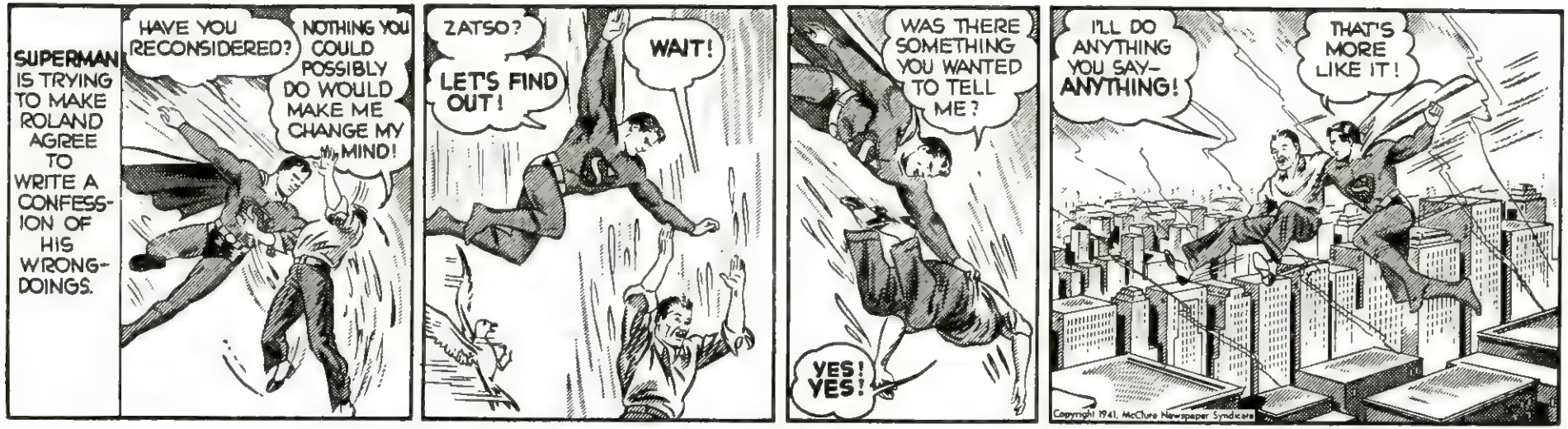
Crude but Effective





SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Roland Reconsiders



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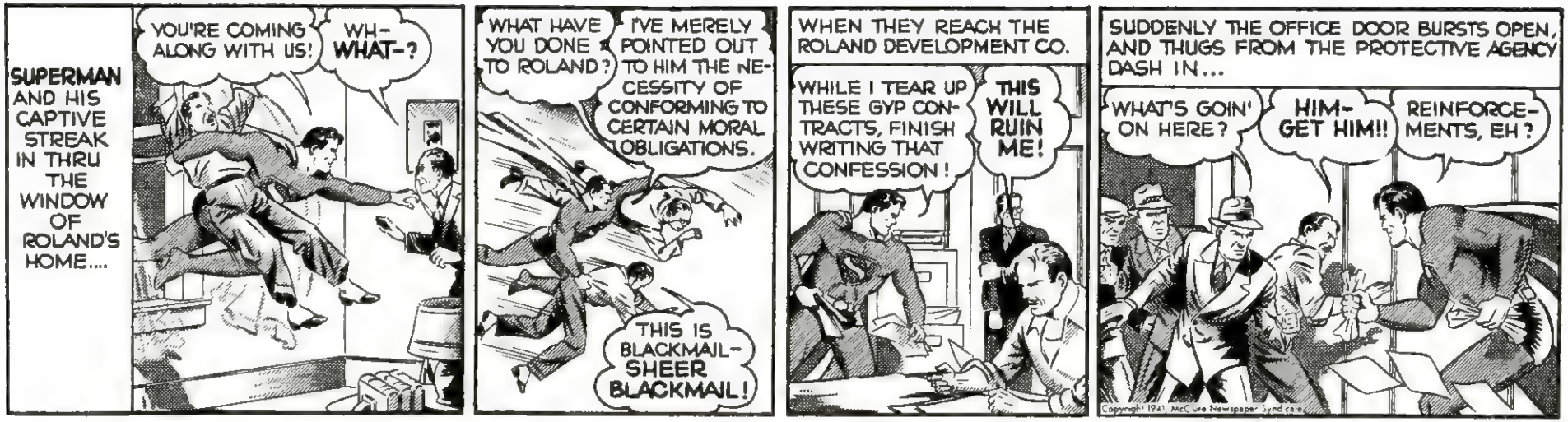
Reinforcements



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Intermission

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

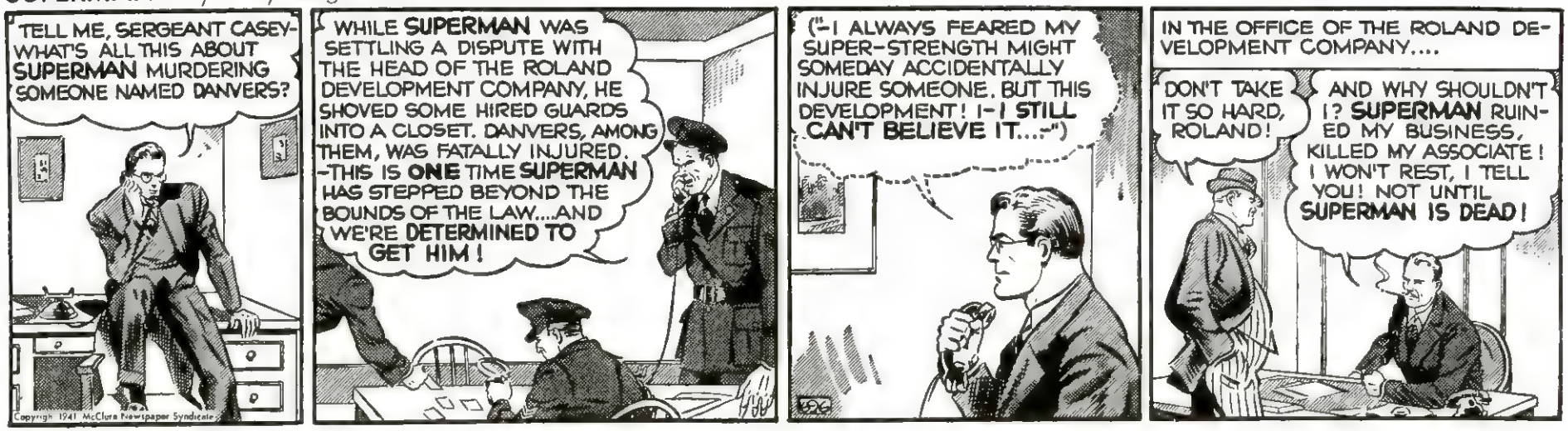
That Man's Here Again.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Murder!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Tragedy Strikes!



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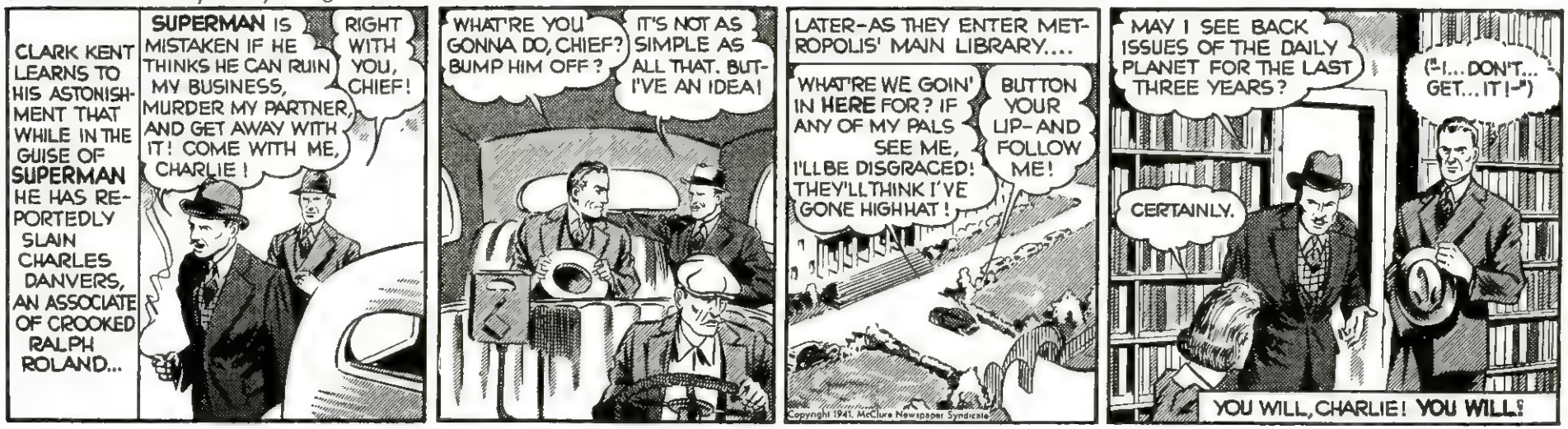
What Goes On?



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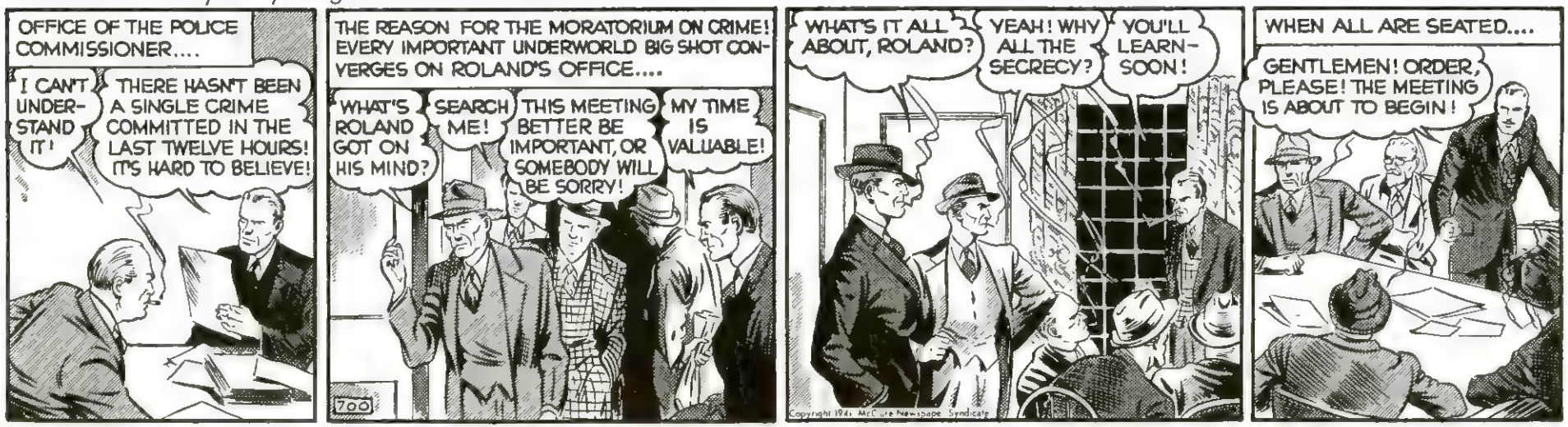
Charlie Sees the Light

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Roland Acts

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Big Moment



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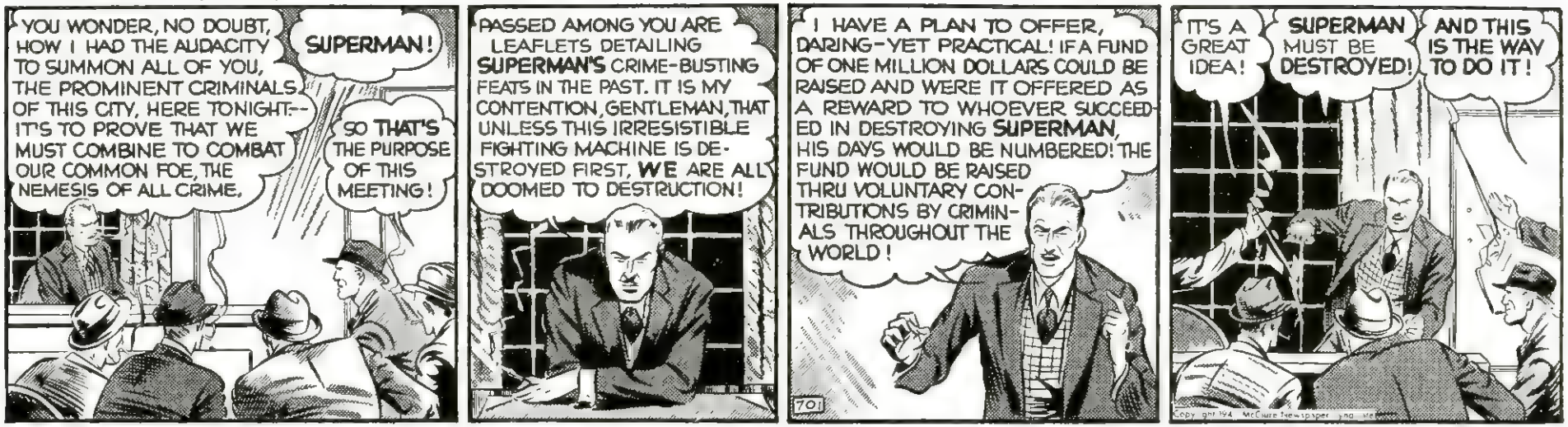
—Birds of a Feather



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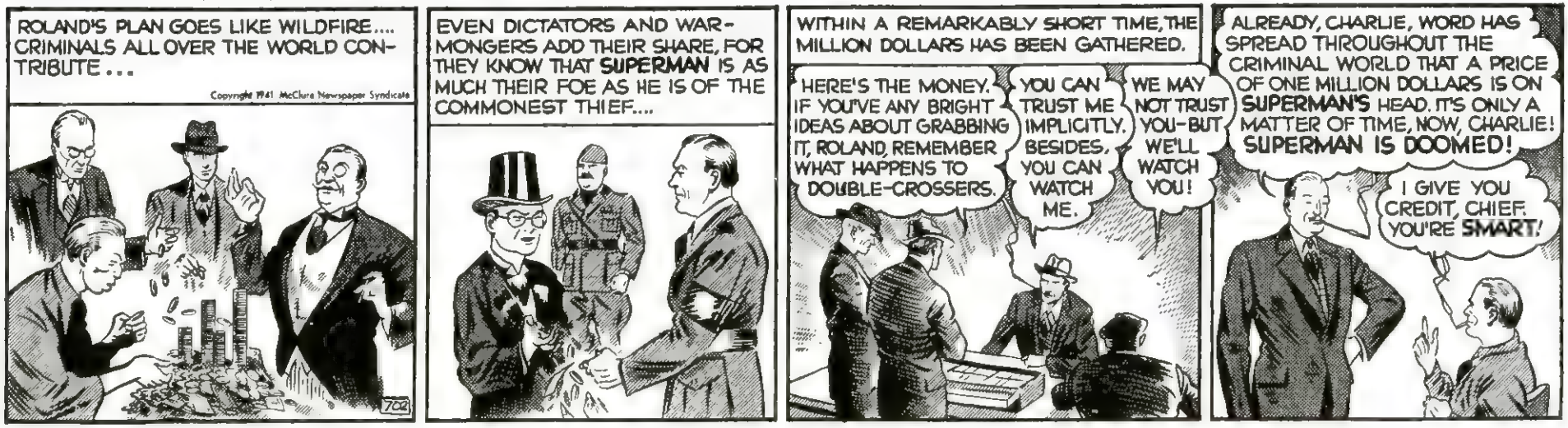
Vipers All!



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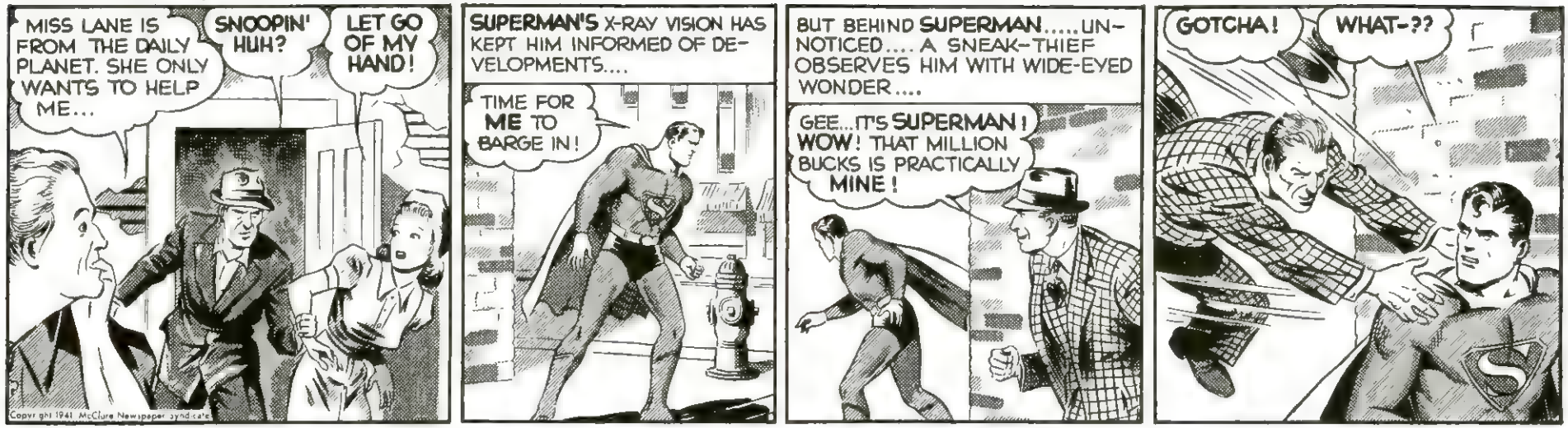
Guardian Angel

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Enter Tom

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Opportunity of a Lifetime

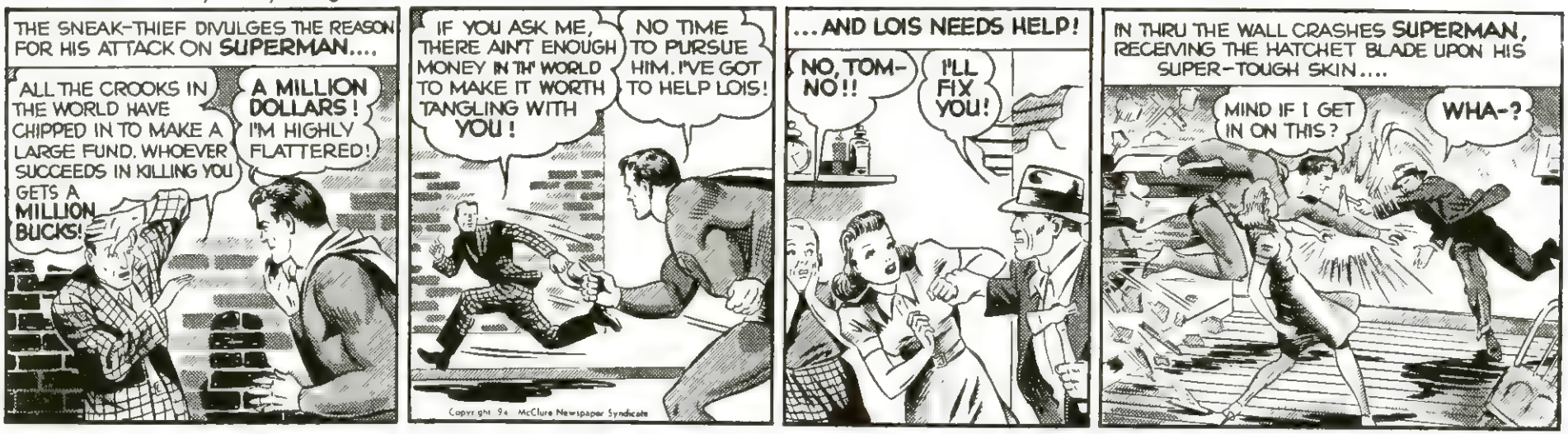


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Wrong Guy to Pick On

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Just in Time!



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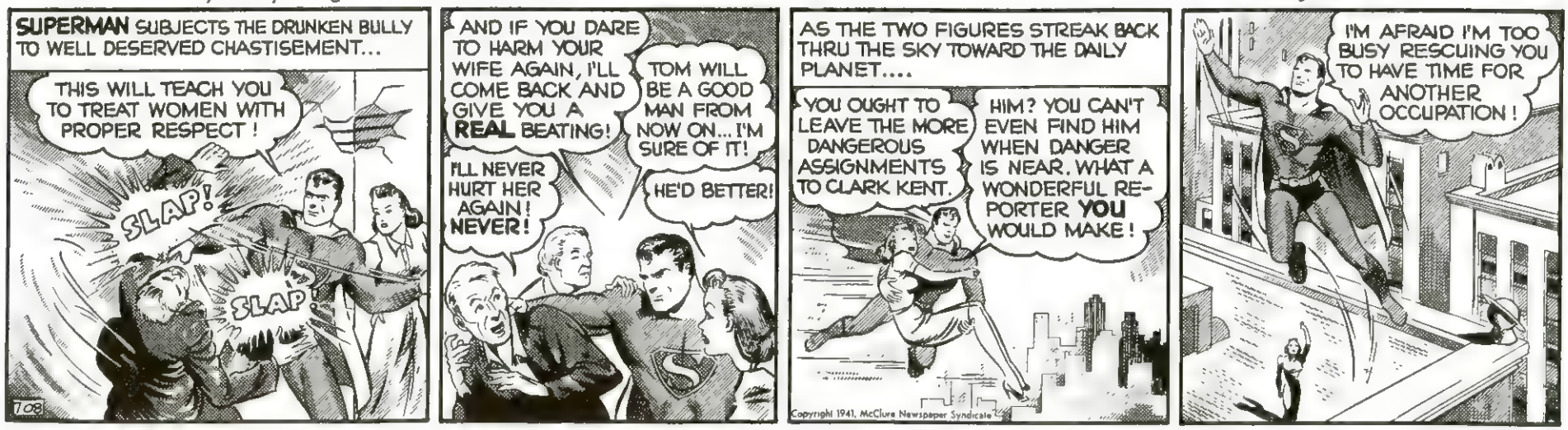
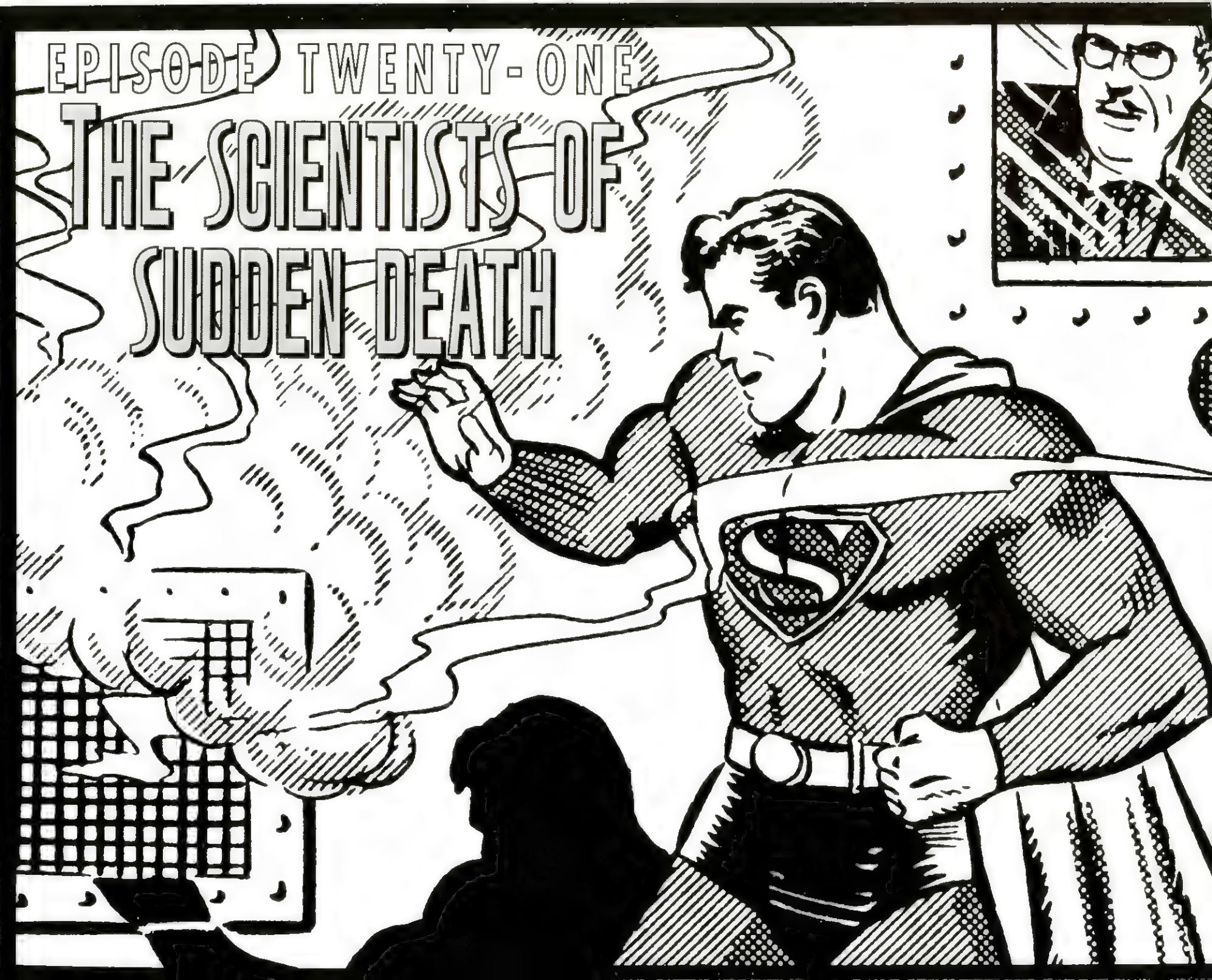
A Busy Man



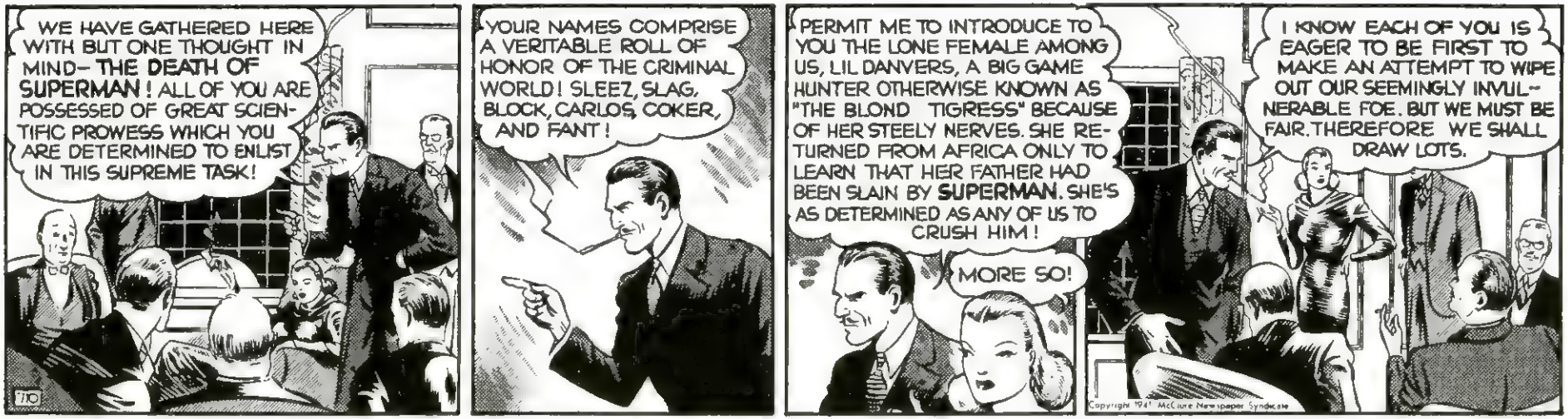

EPISODE TWENTY-ONE
THE SCIENTISTS OF SUDDEN DEATH

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Plotters Meet

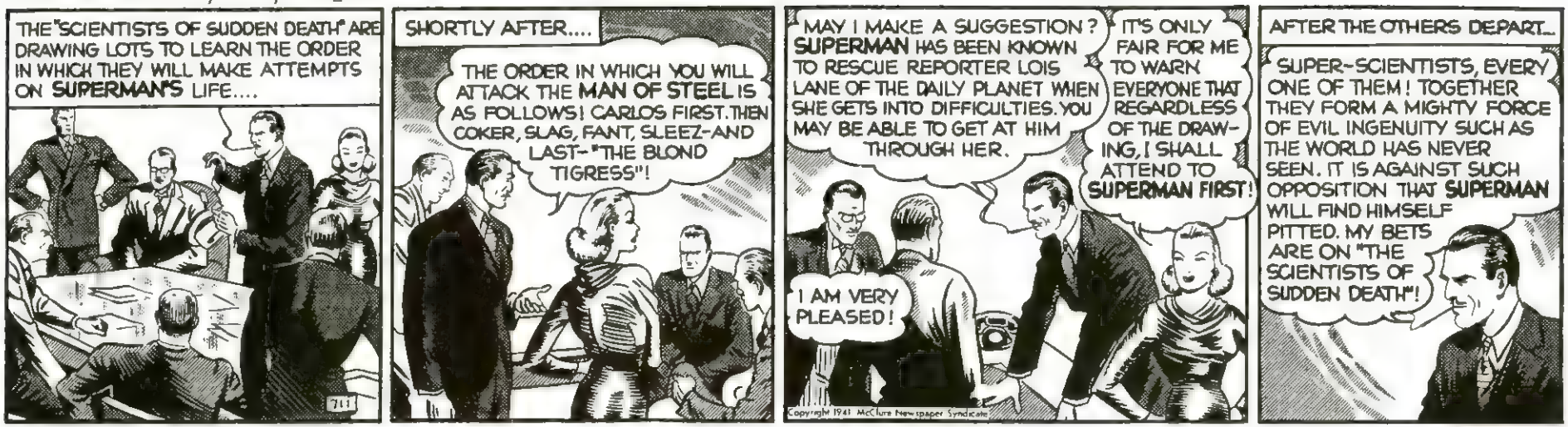
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Scientists of Sudden Death



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Heavy Odds

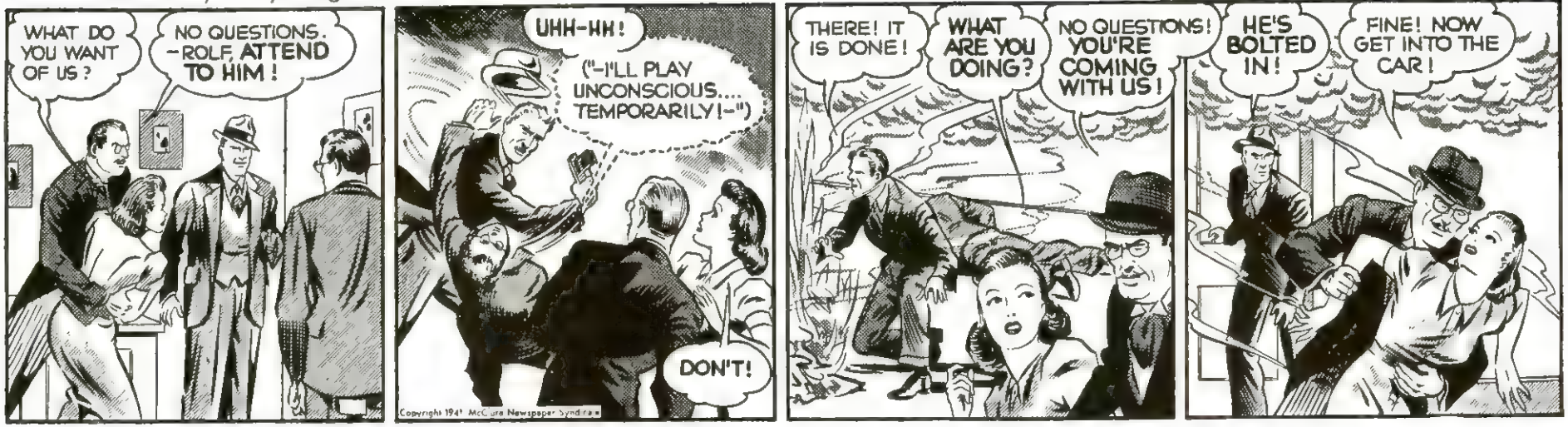


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Carlos Strikes

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Kidnaped!



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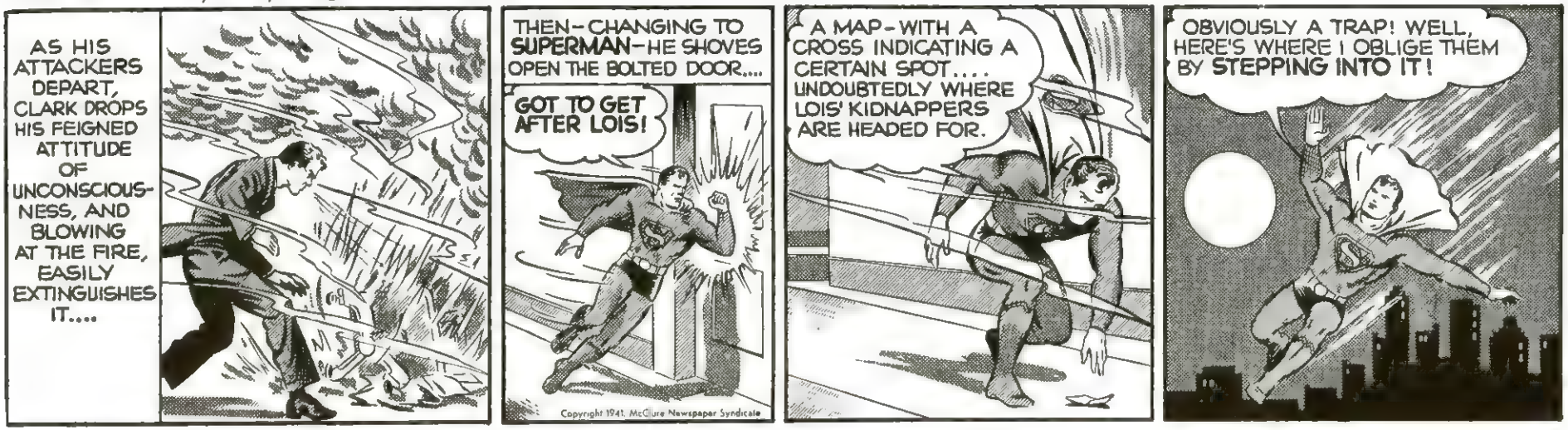
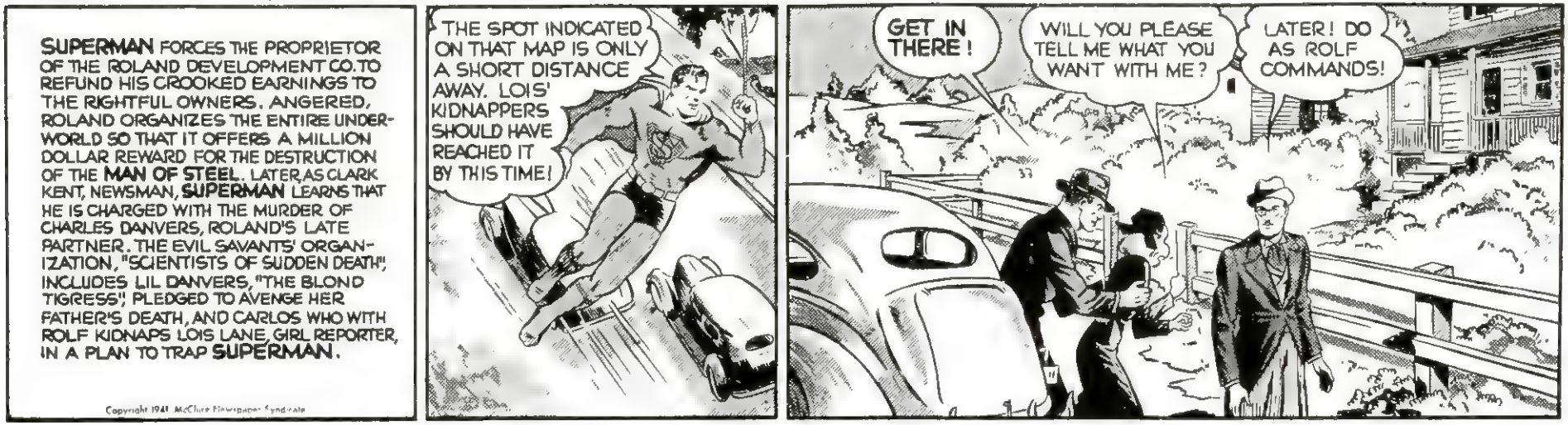
Obliging Chap



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

On the Trail



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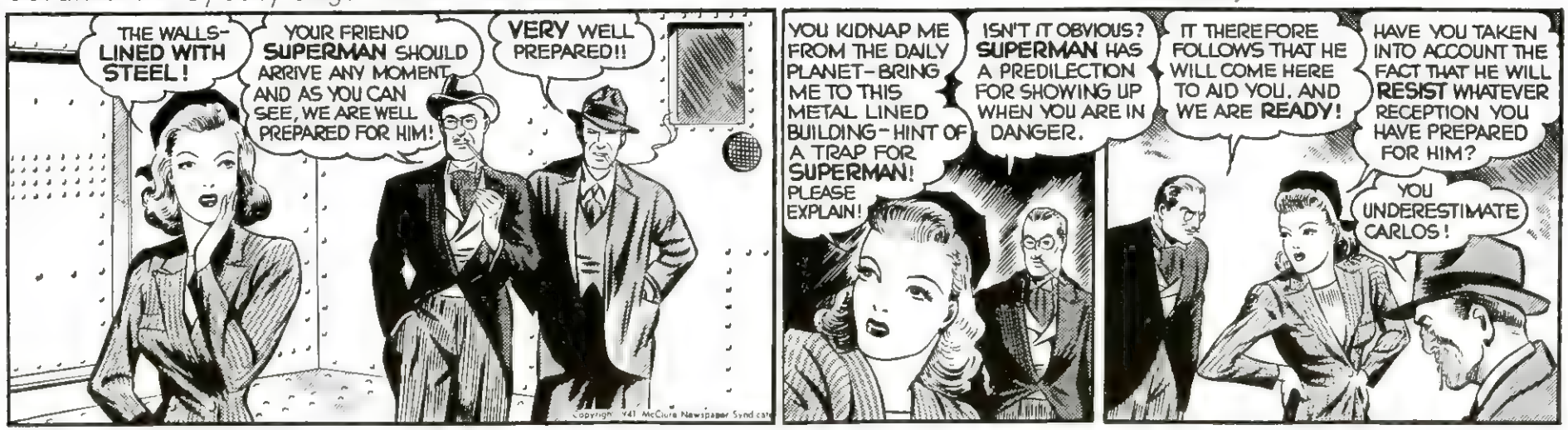
All Is Ready



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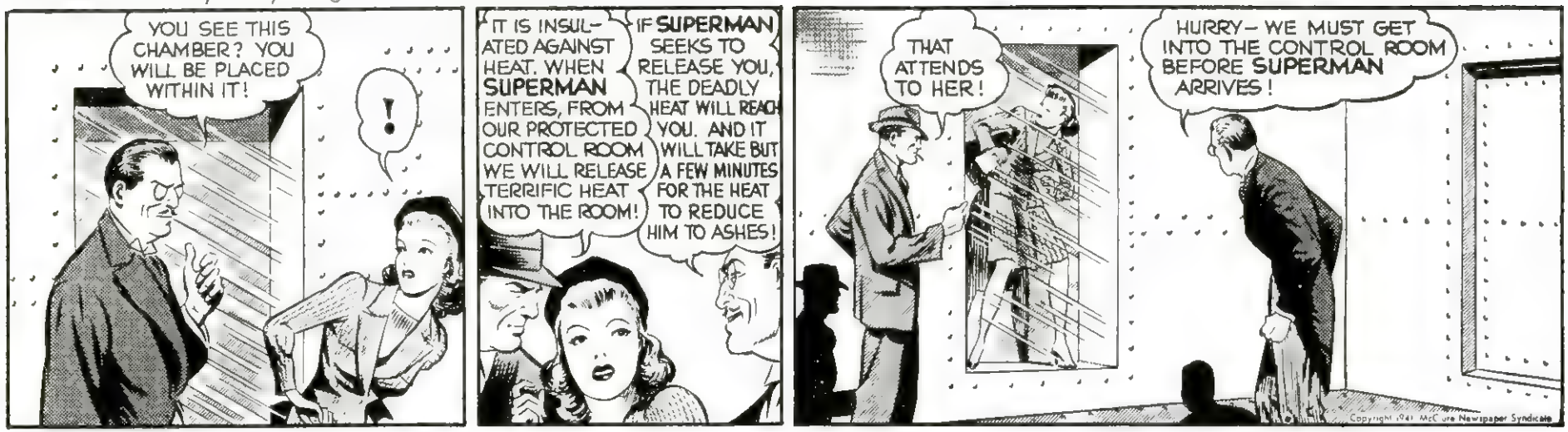
The Trap Is Baited



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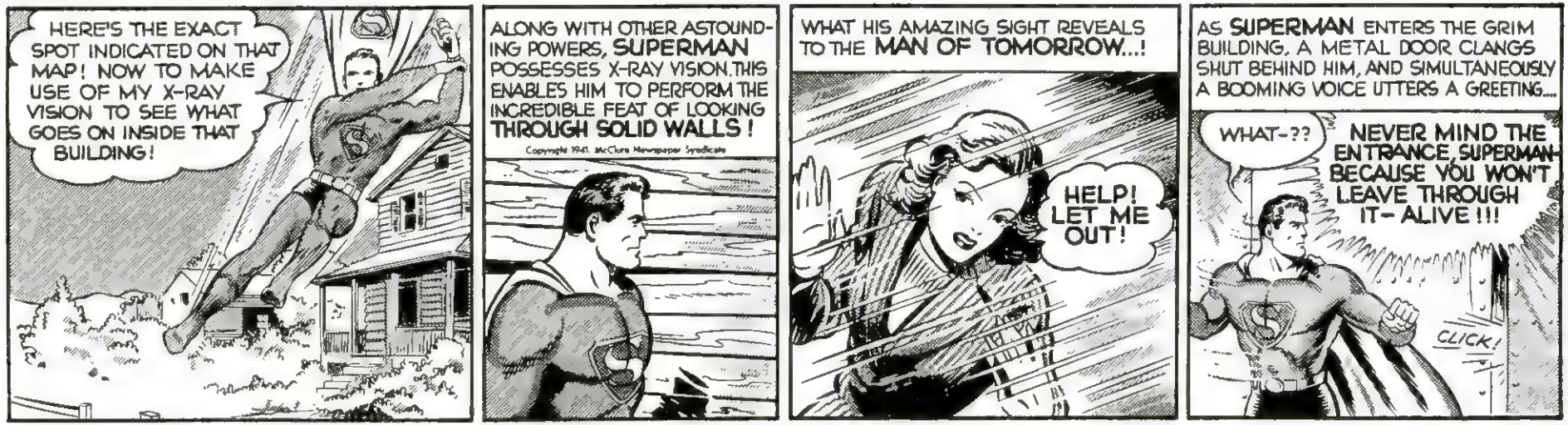
Ominous Greeting



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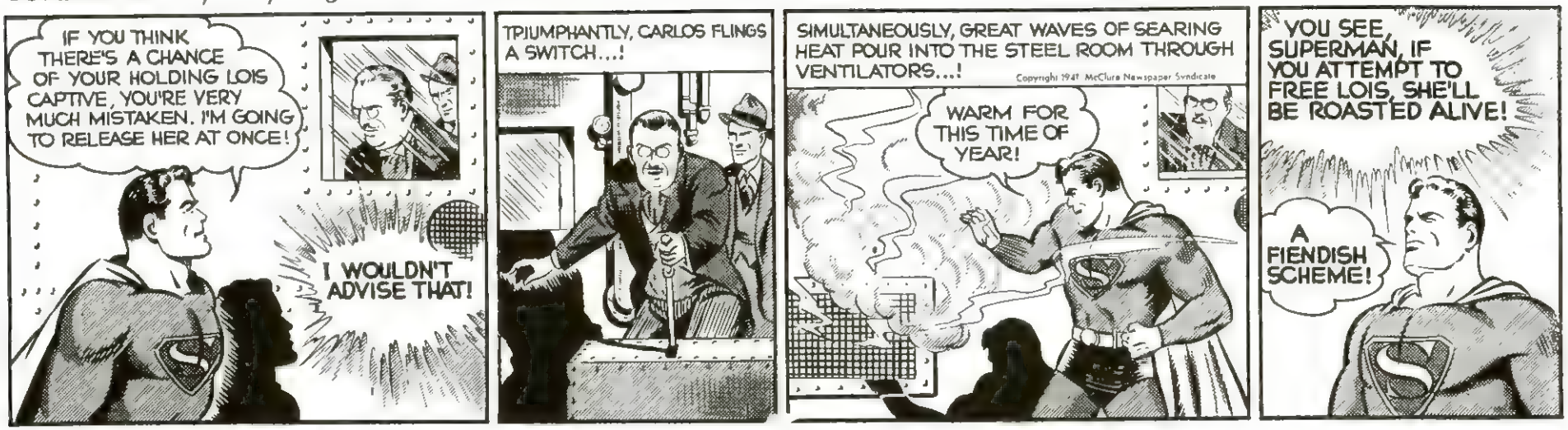
The Heat's On!



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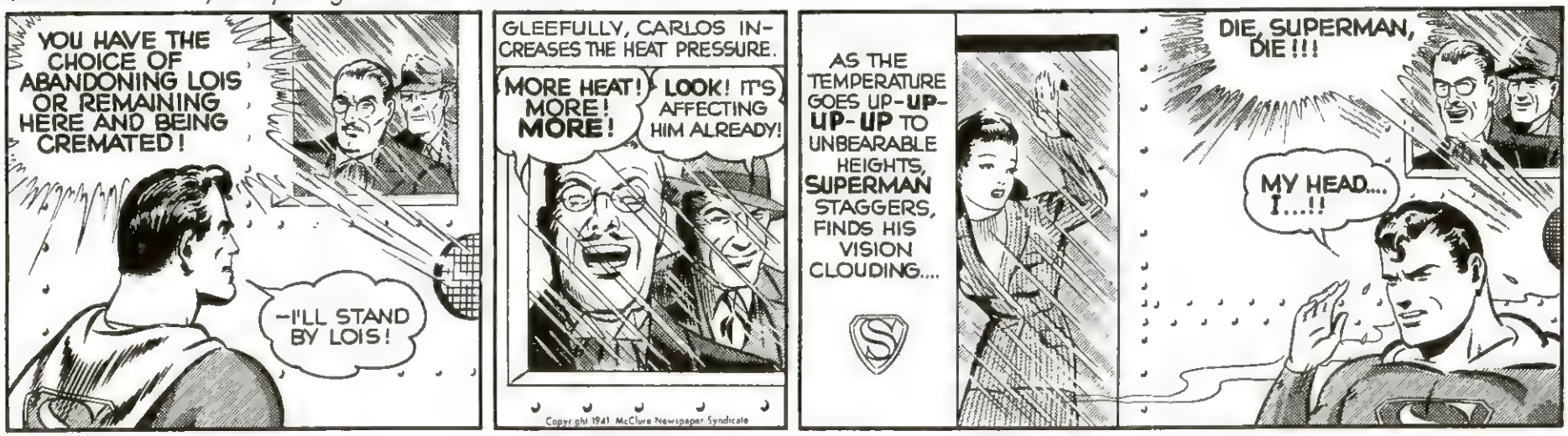
Candidate for a Casket



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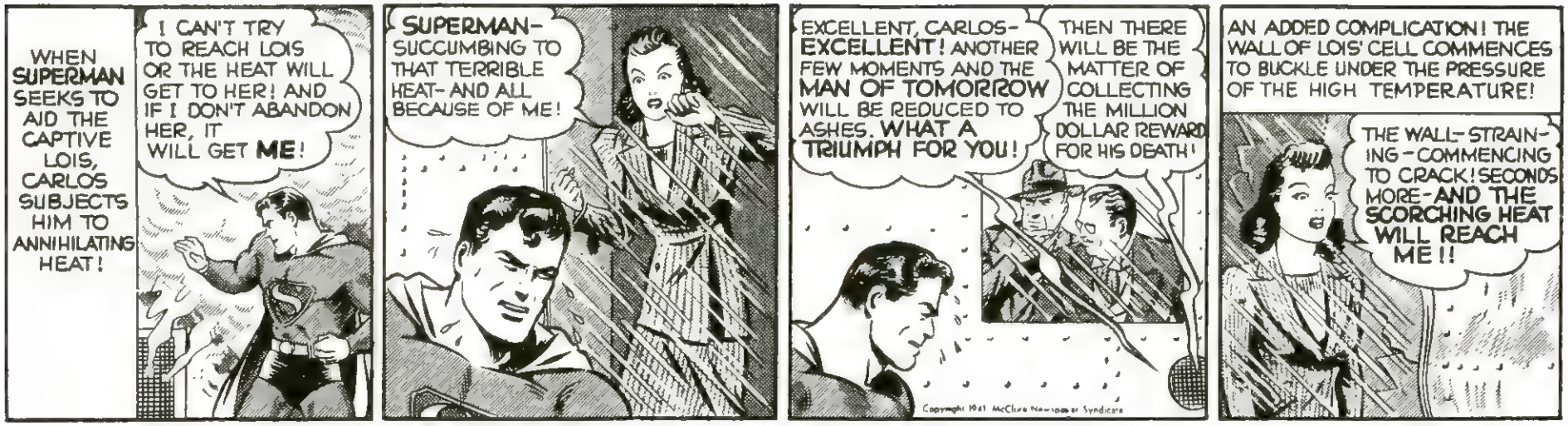
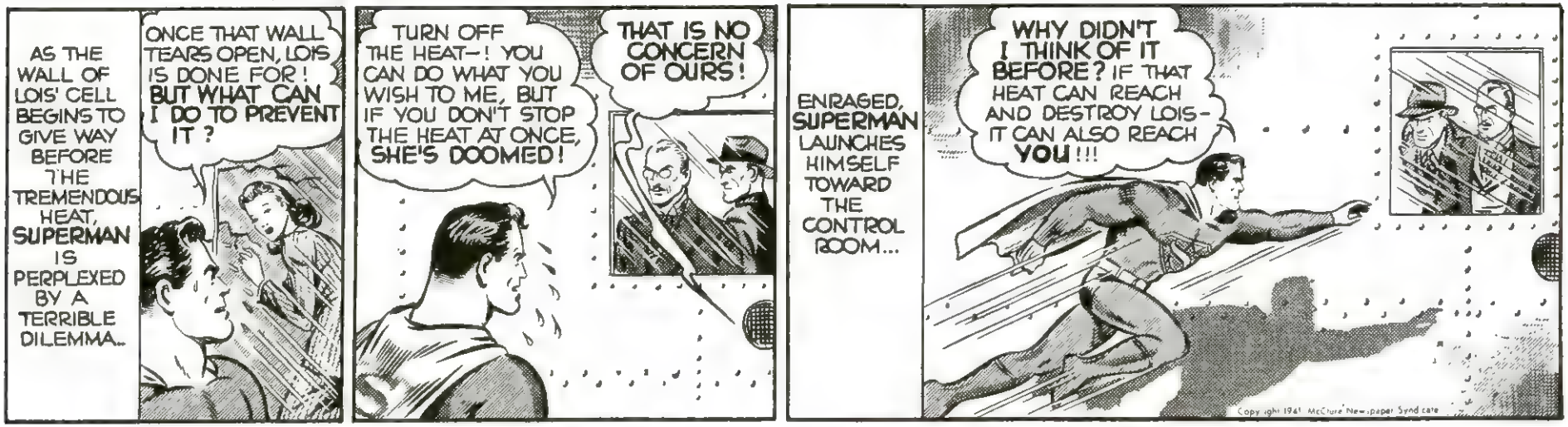
On the Spot!



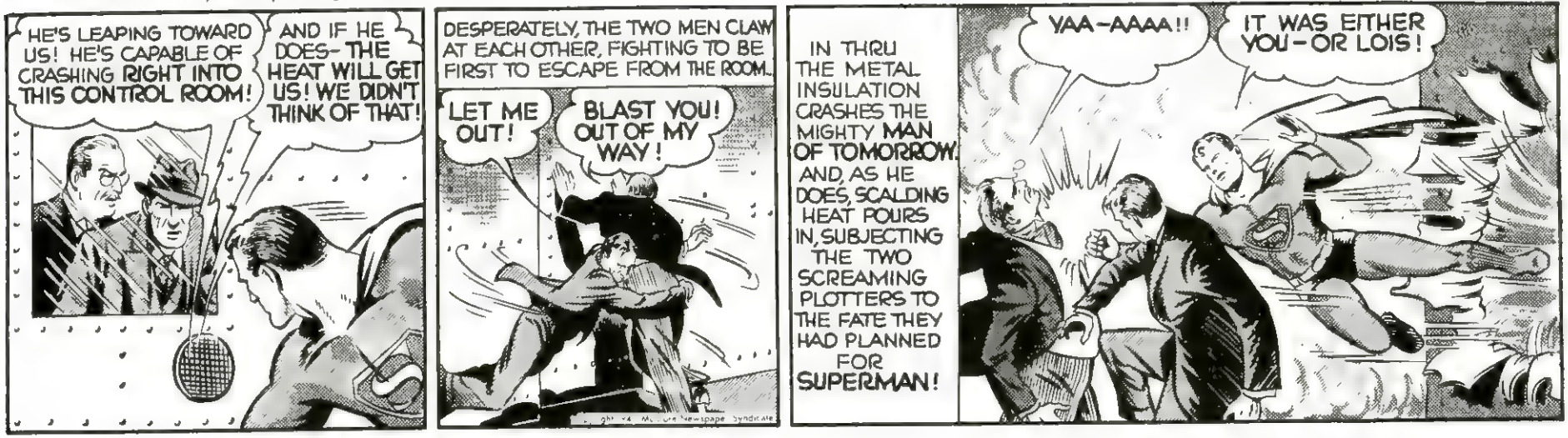
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Solution



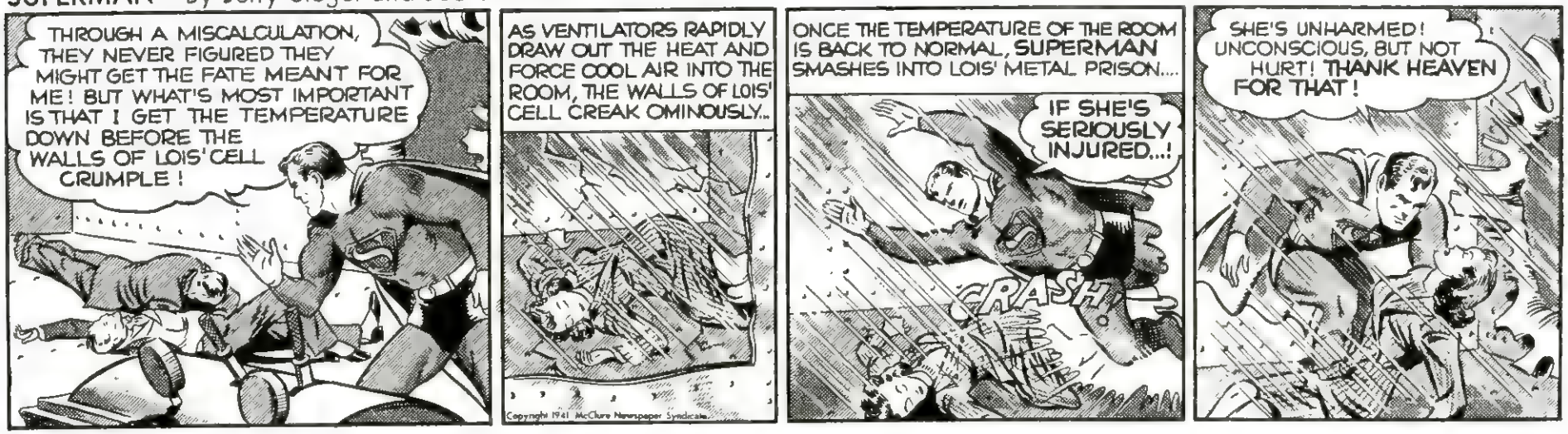
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Boomerang!



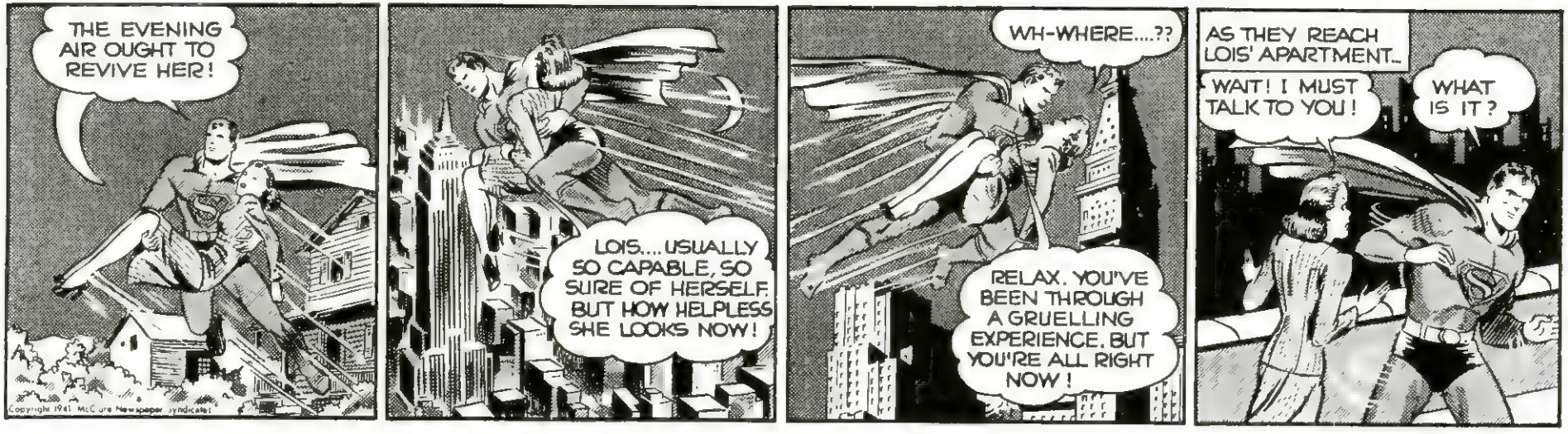
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

To the Rescue!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

One Moment, Please



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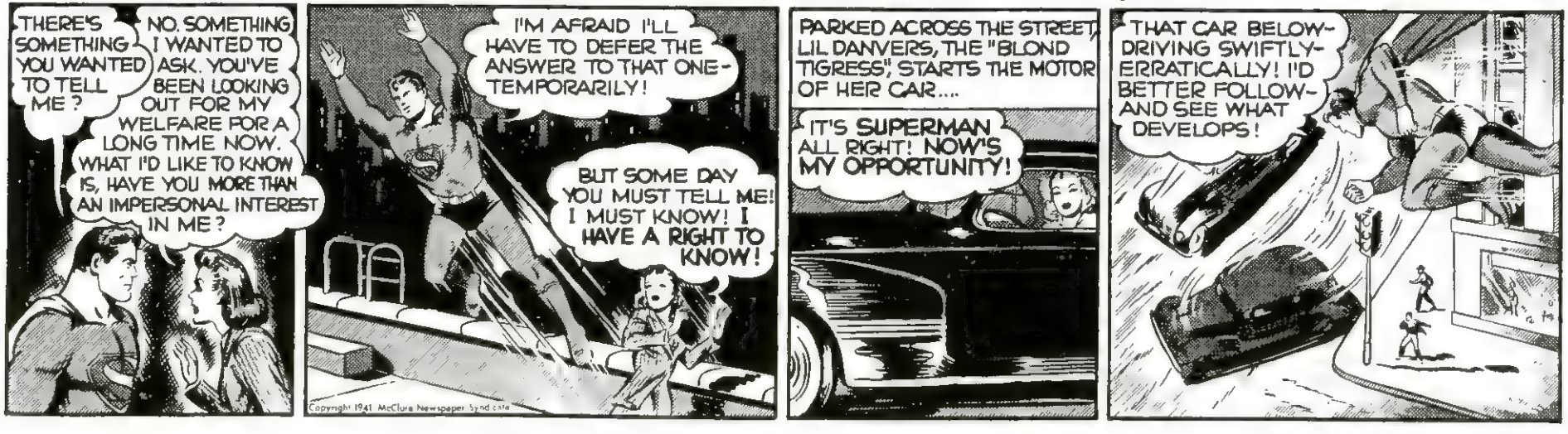
A Trap Is Set



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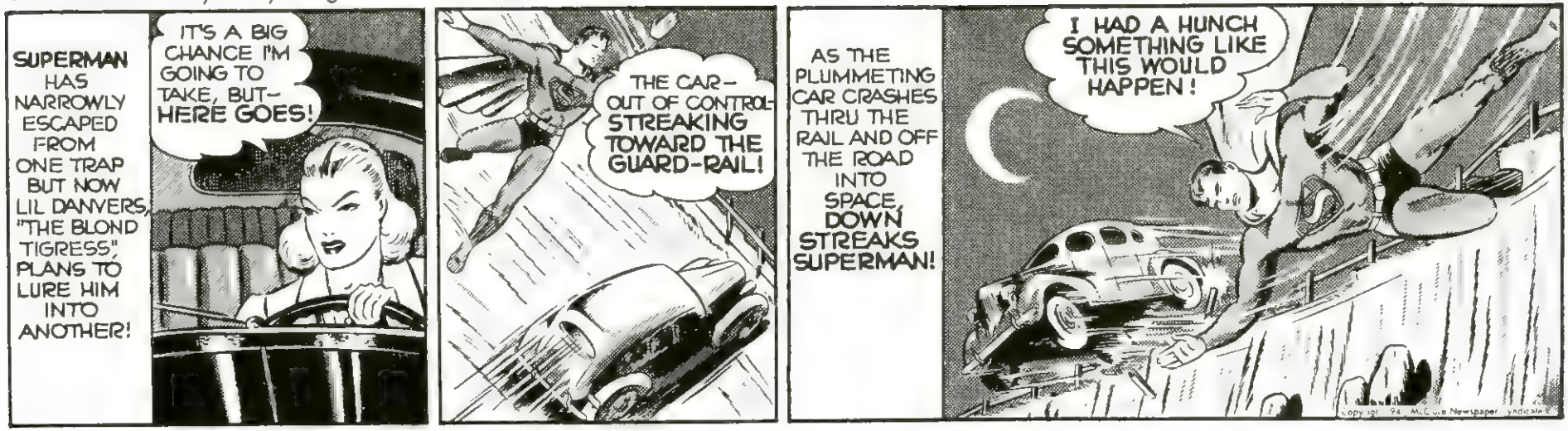
Drastic Measures



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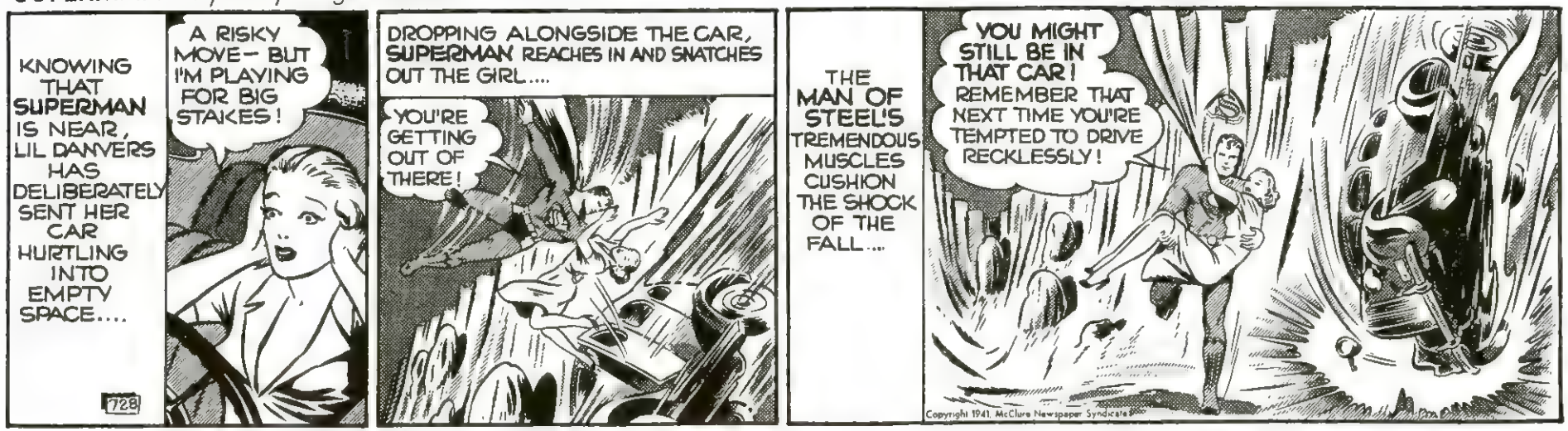
Gentle Reminder



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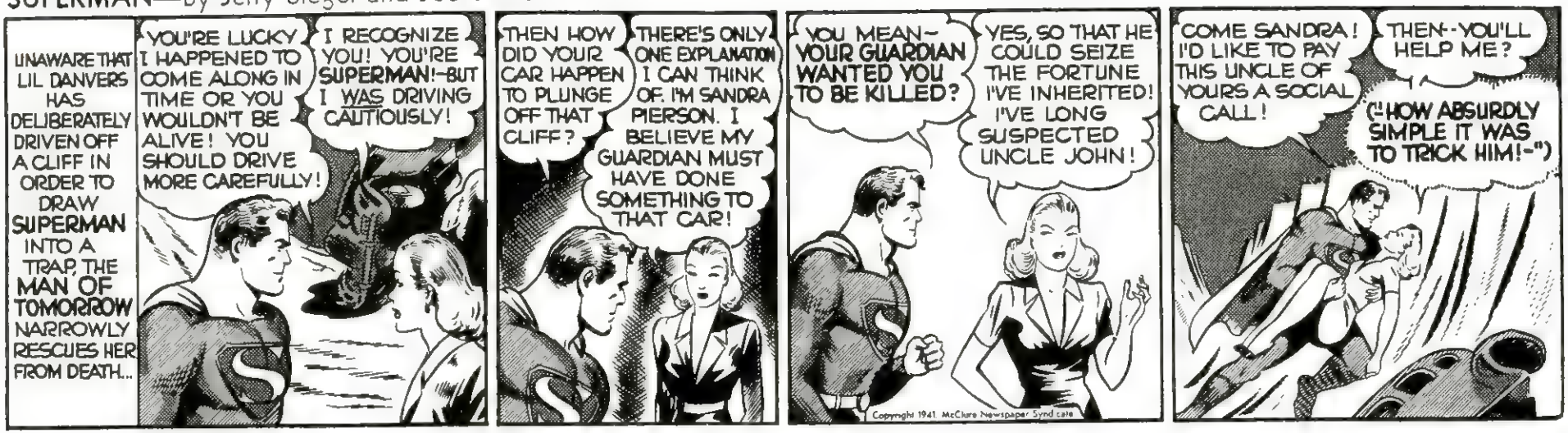
Hooked!



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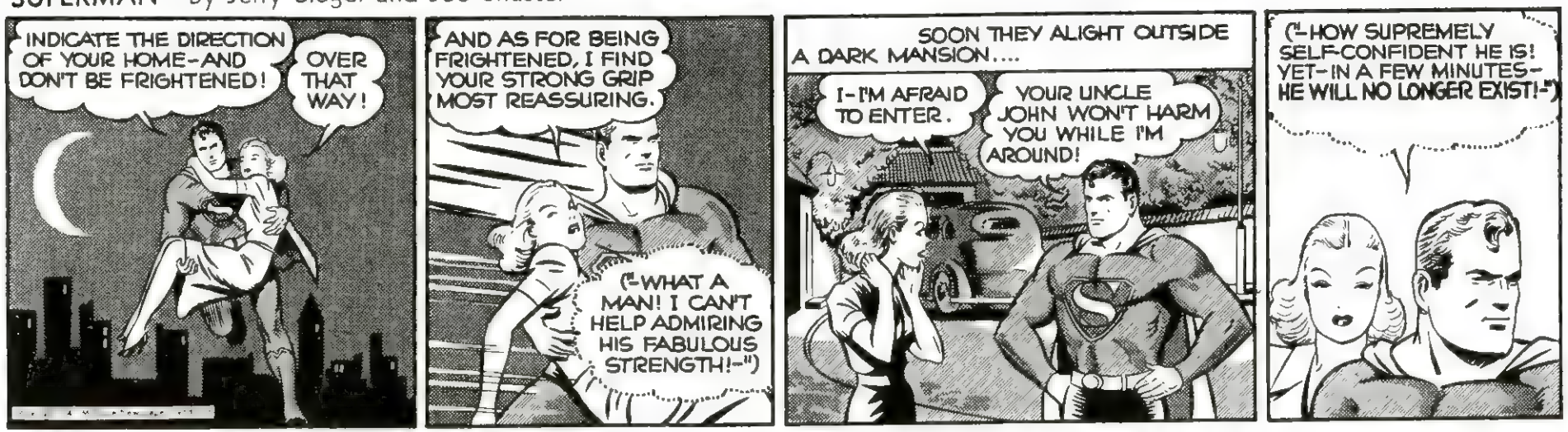
Fools Rush In



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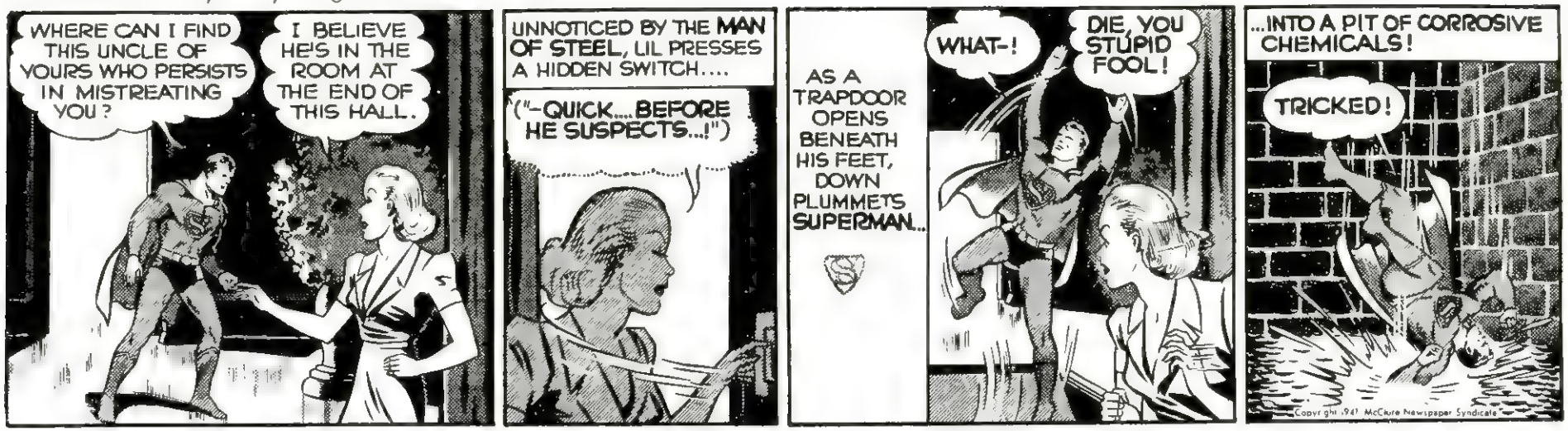
Exit Superman!



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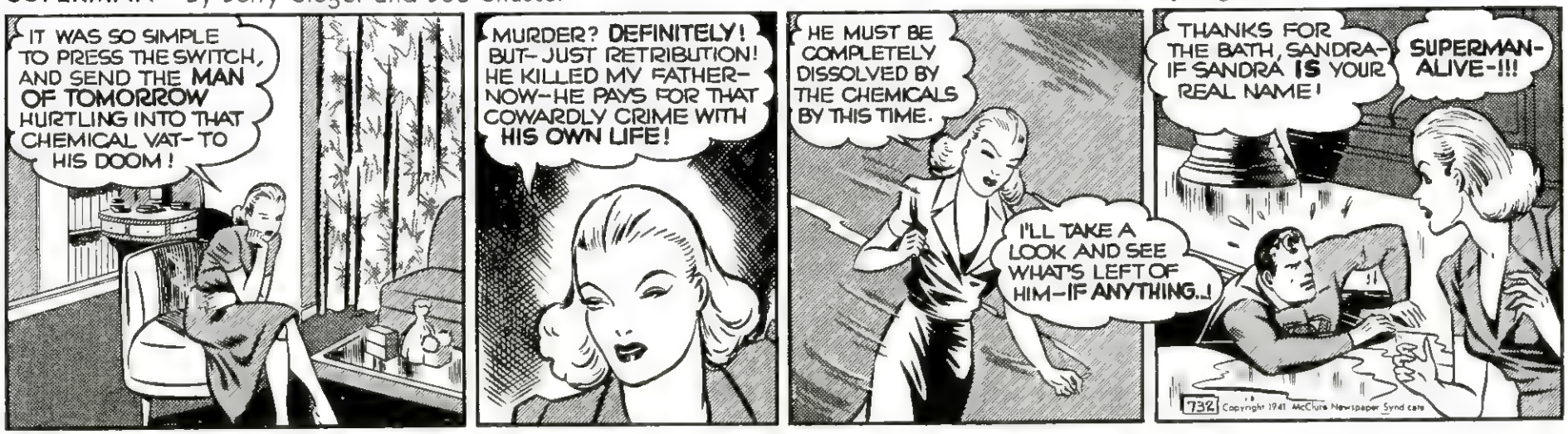
Saturday Night



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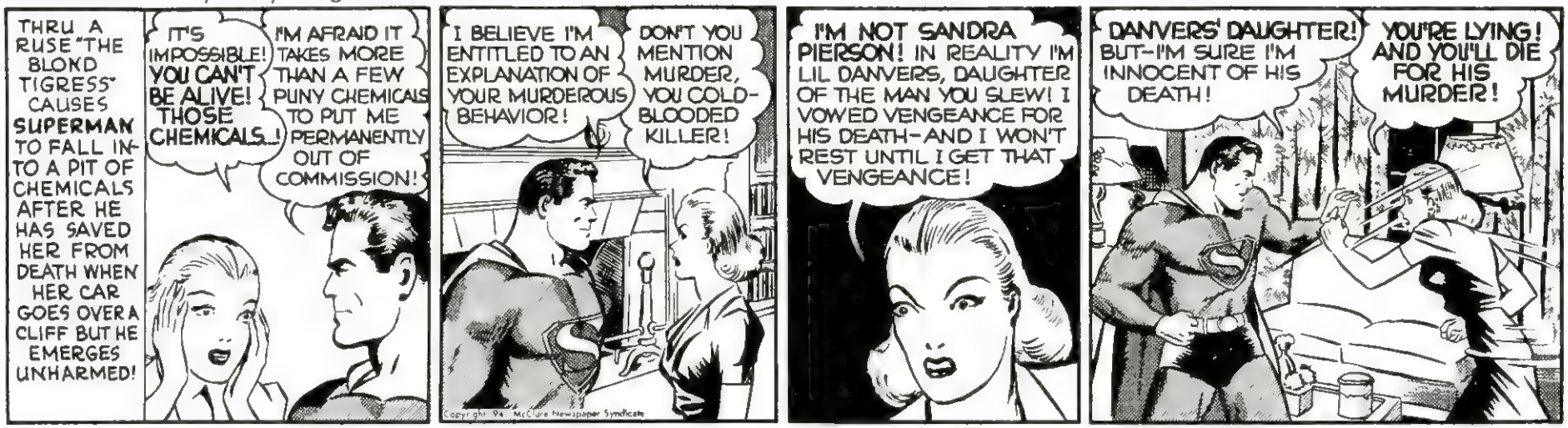
Tempestuous



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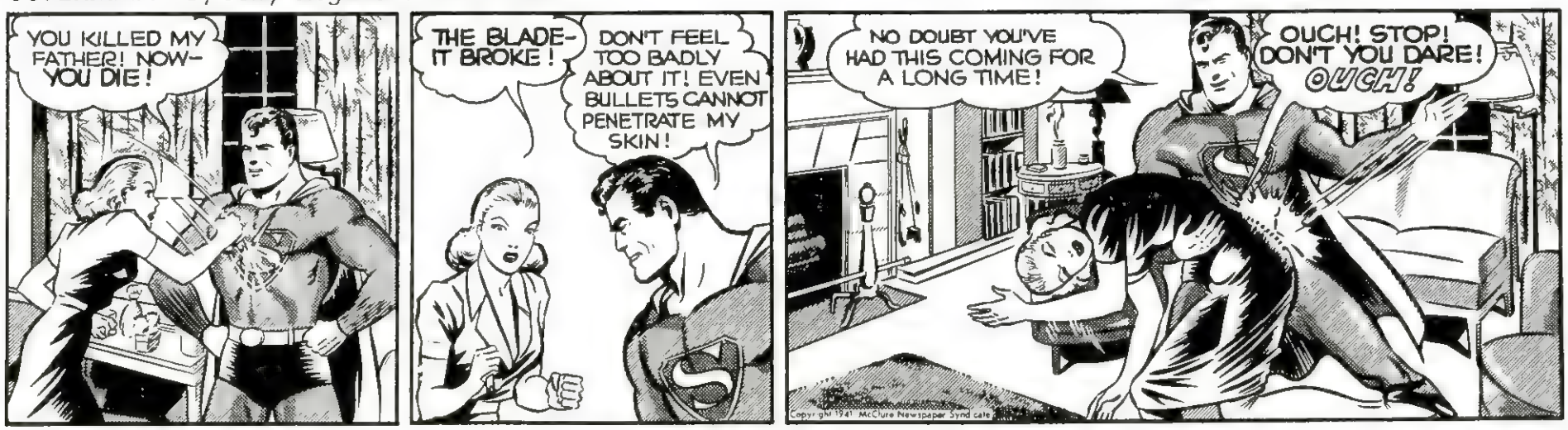
Old-Fashioned Remedy



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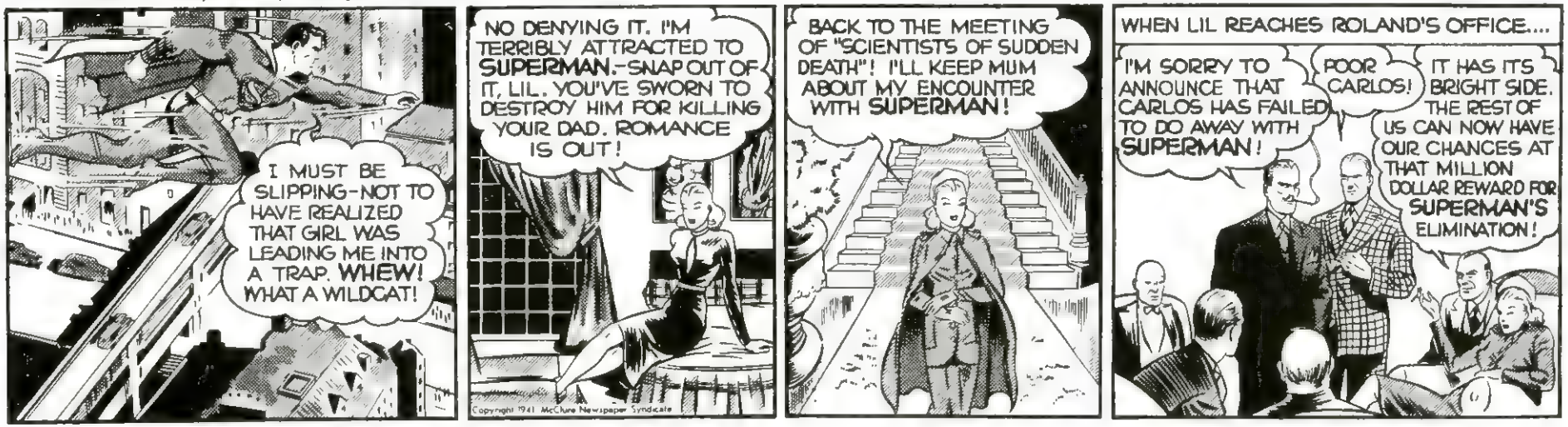
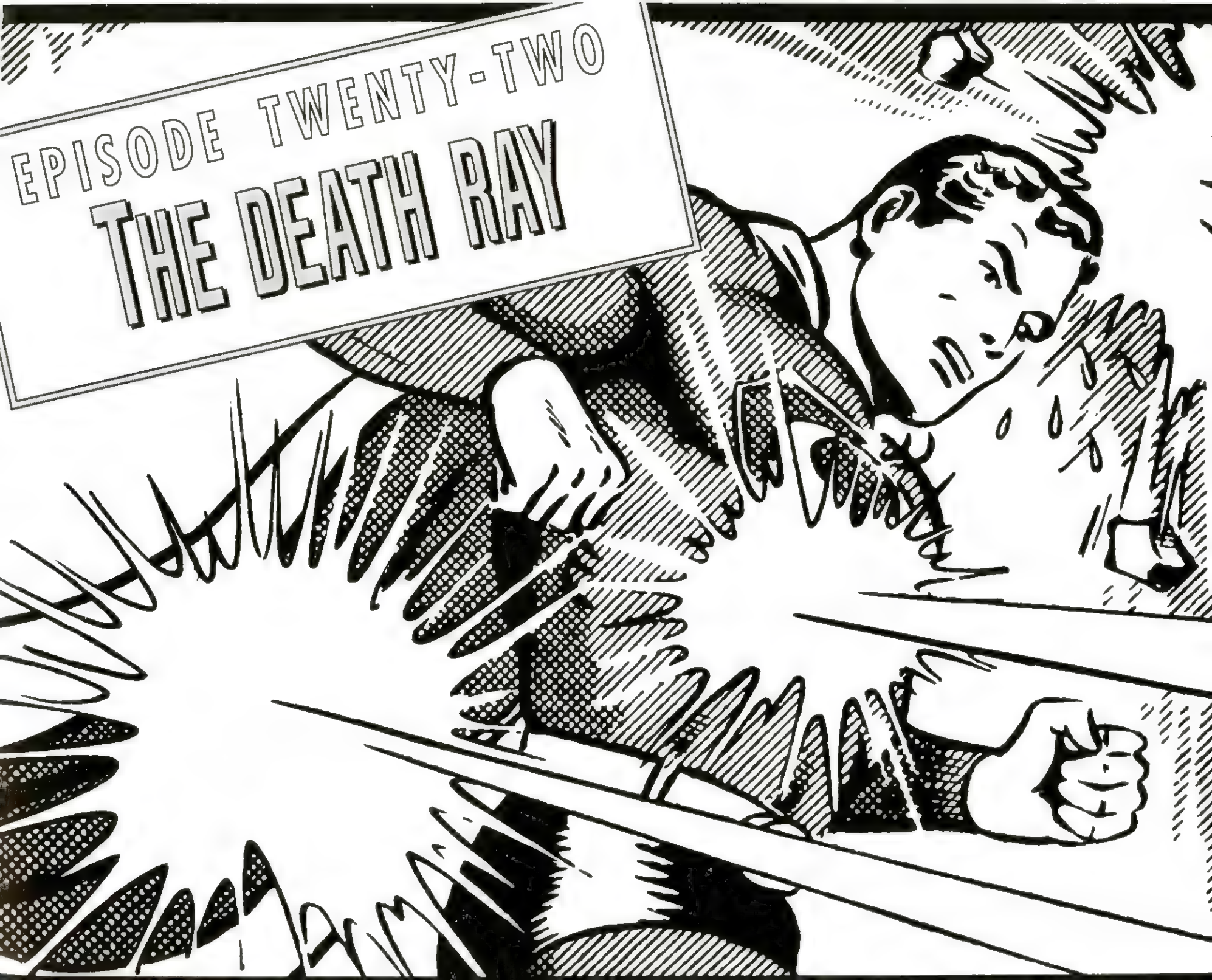
Just Like a Woman

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster




EPISODE TWENTY-TWO
THE DEATH RAY

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

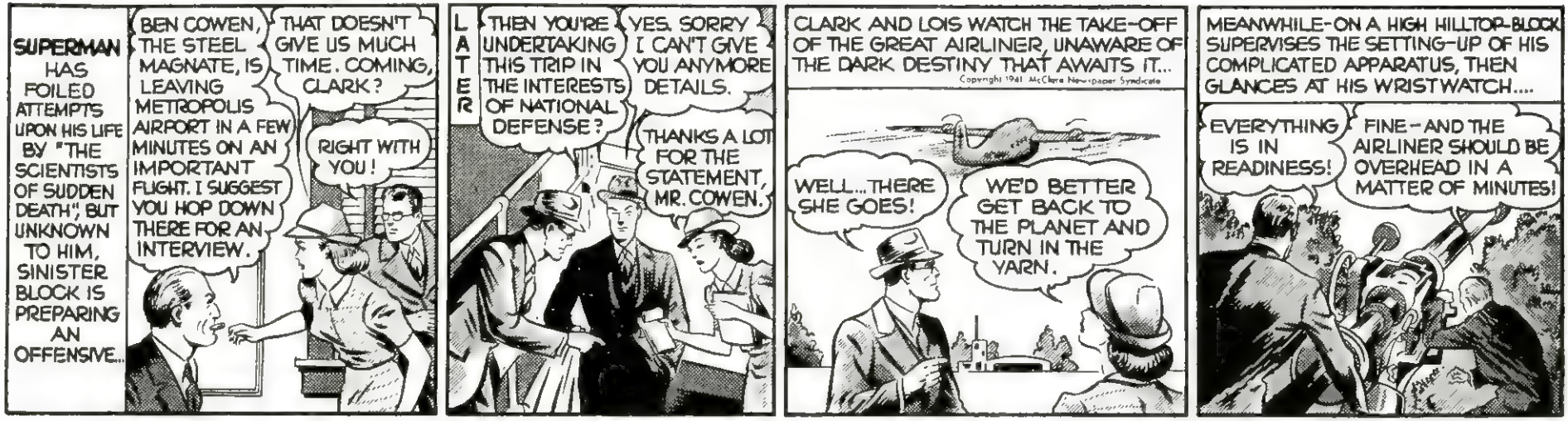
. . . Next!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Danger Ahead!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

All Set



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Into the Trap!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

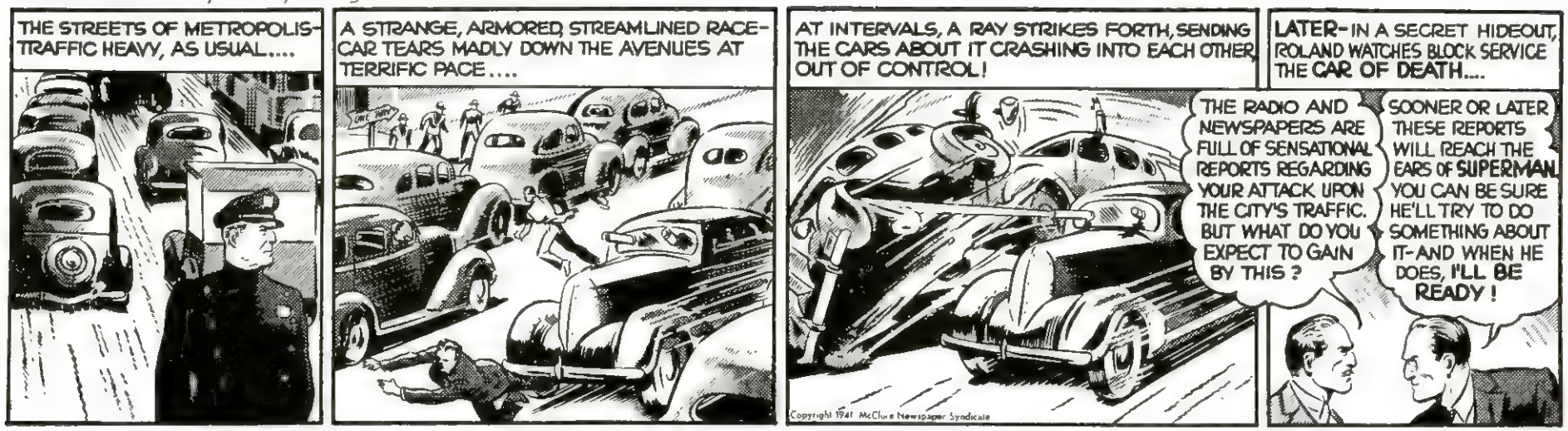
Destruction!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Unexpected

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

—The Car of Death —



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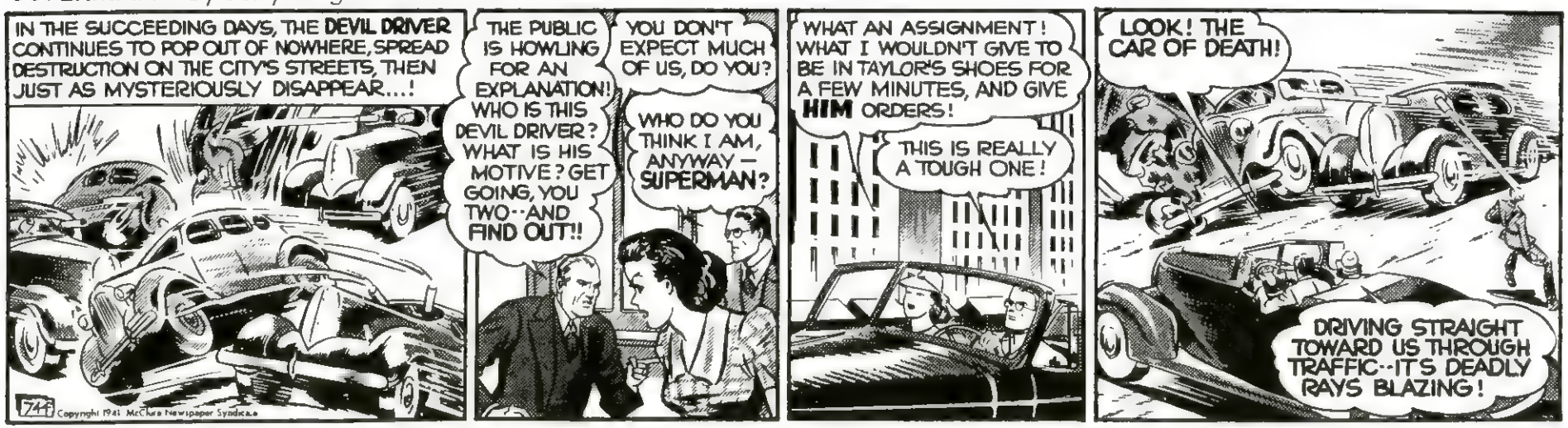
Devil Driver



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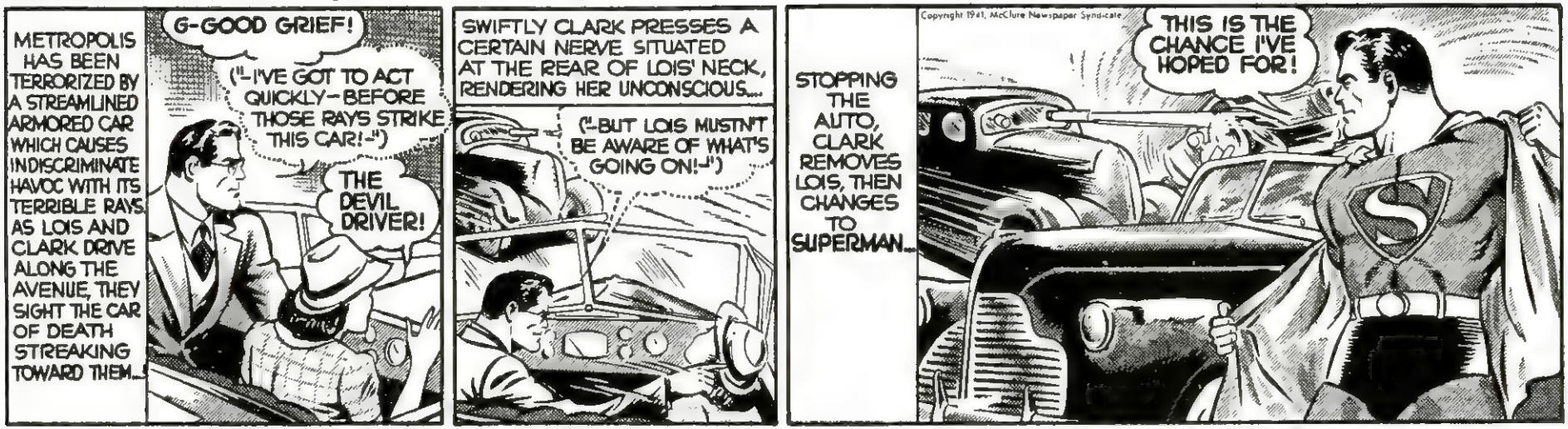
Ready for Battle



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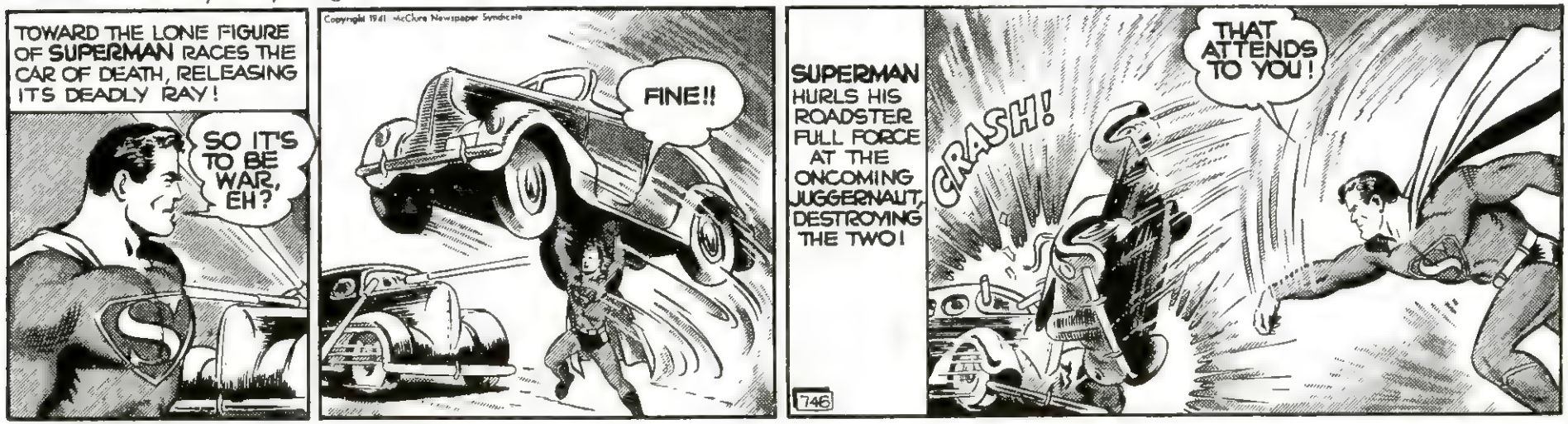
Just Like That!



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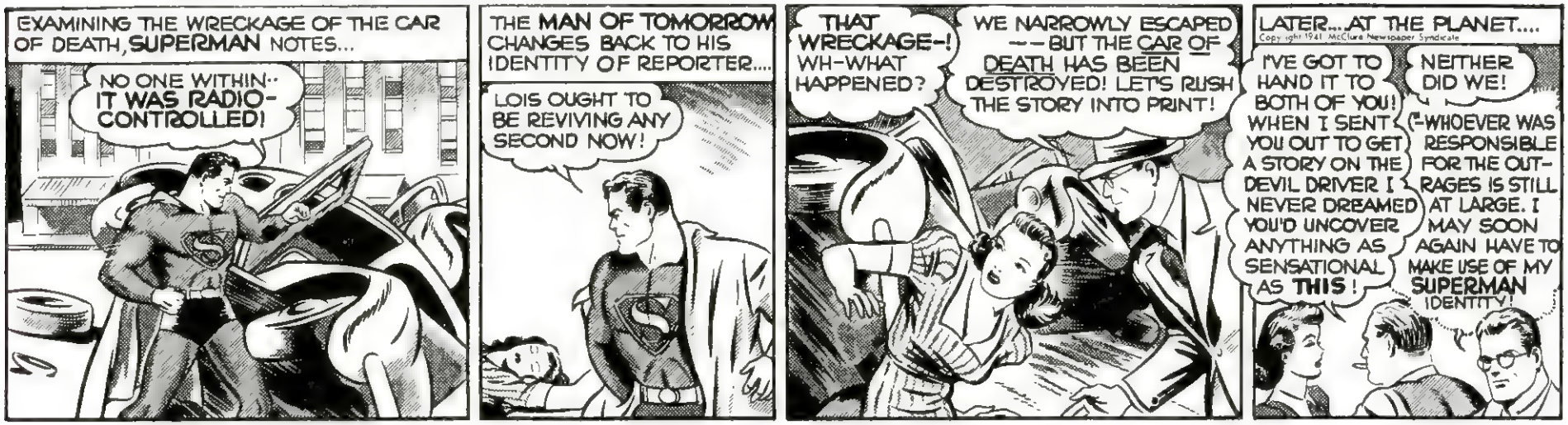
Exit Car of Death



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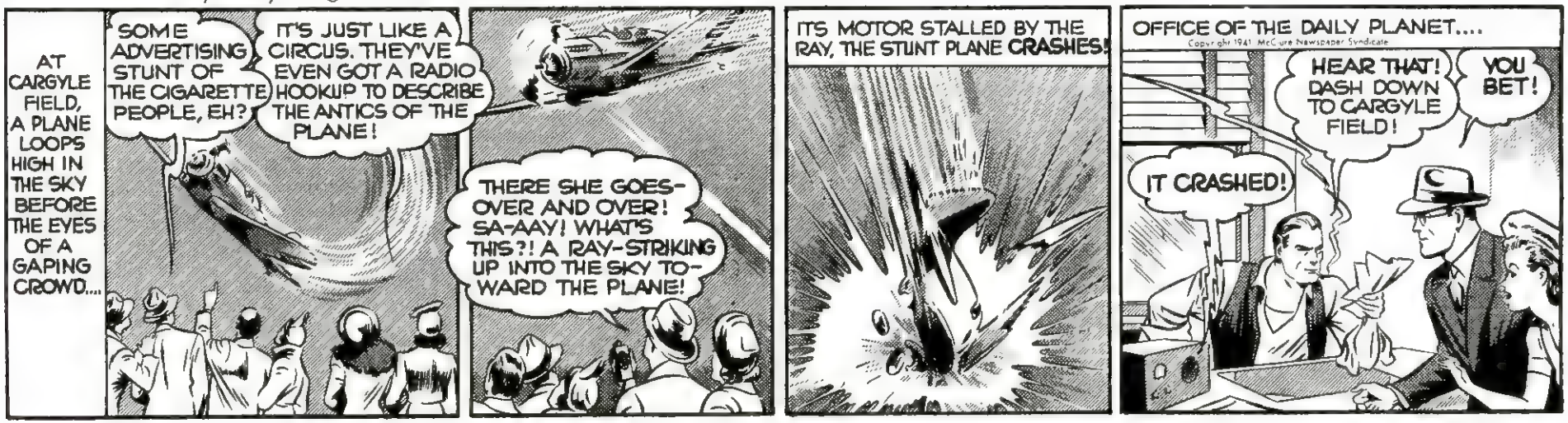
Not On the Program



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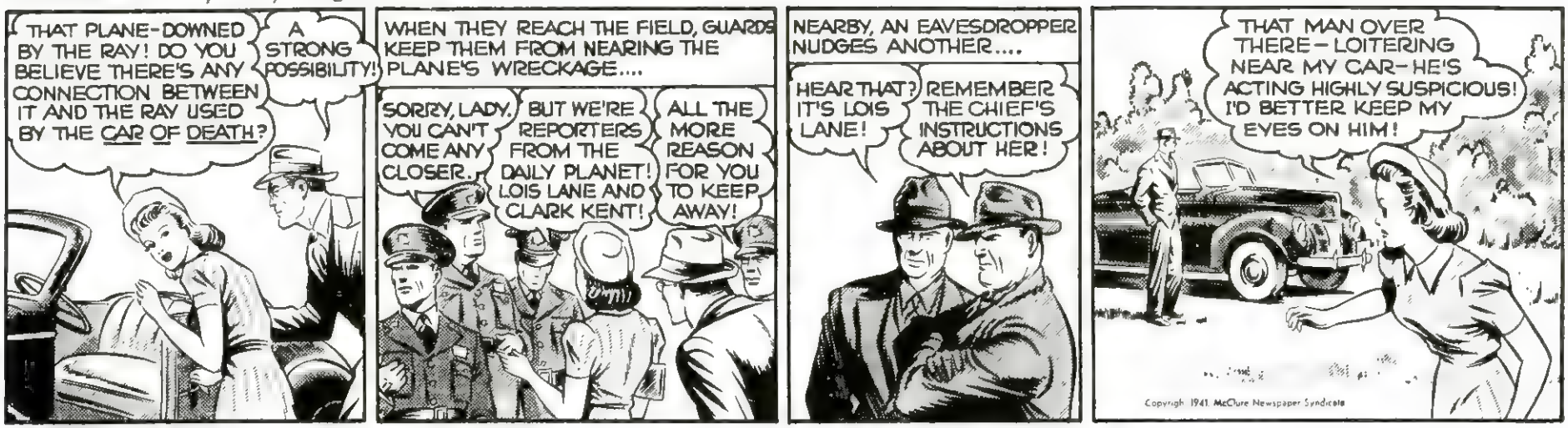
Suspect!



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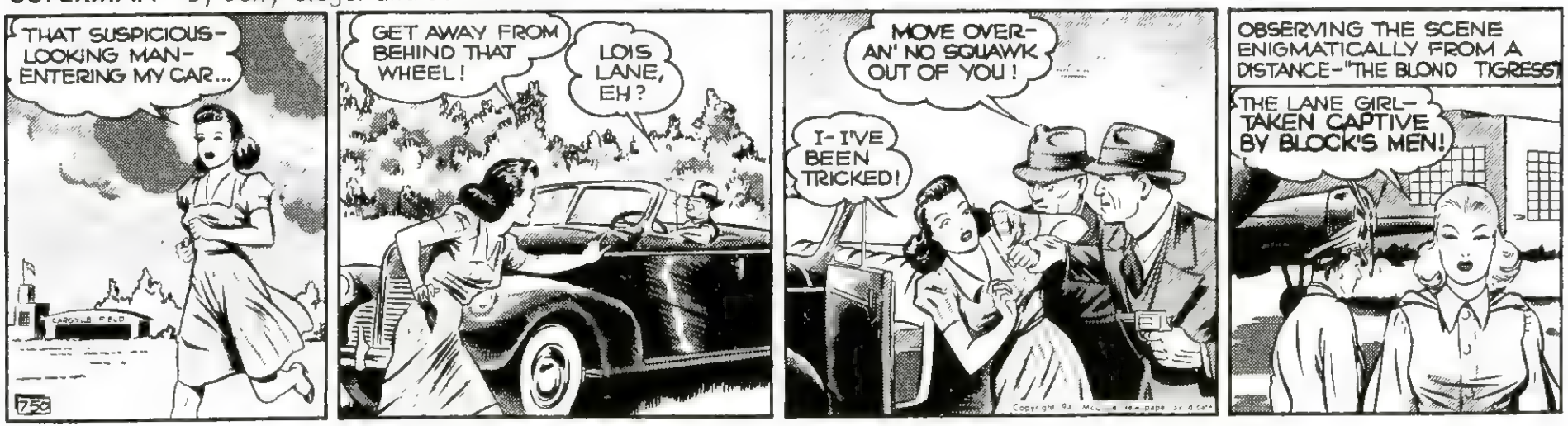
Interested Onlooker



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Snatched!

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The Meeting

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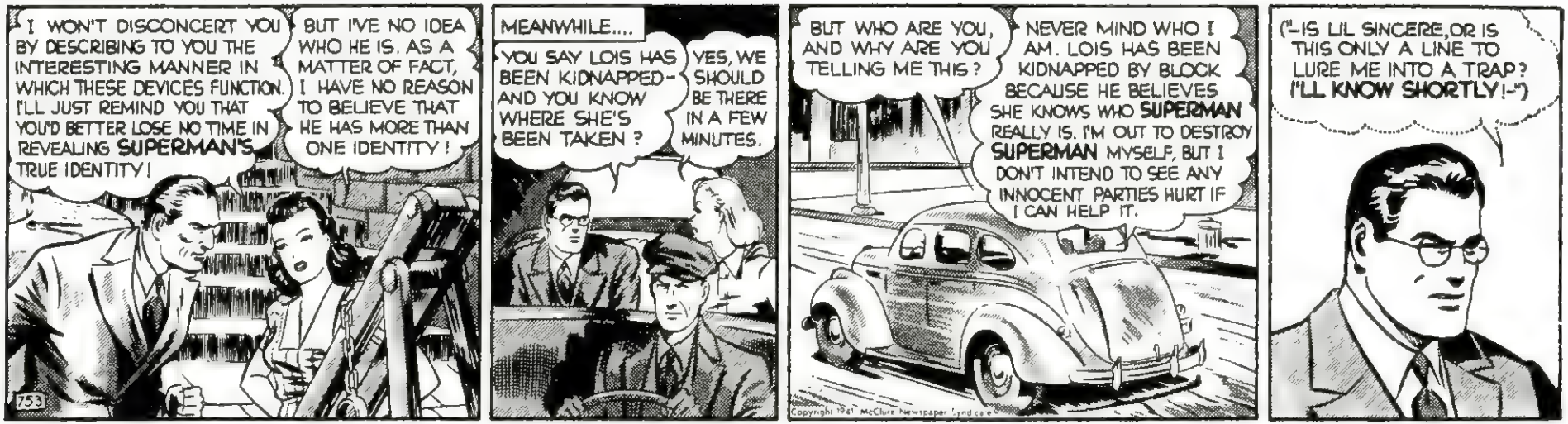
Enigmatic Lil



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Into the Web!

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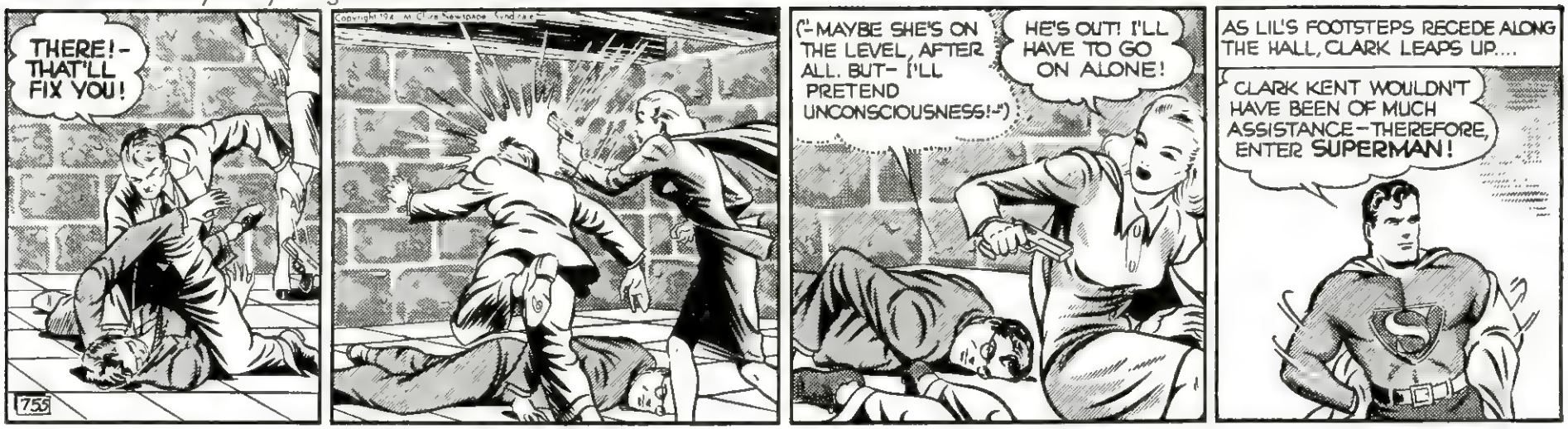
The Man of Steal



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Interference

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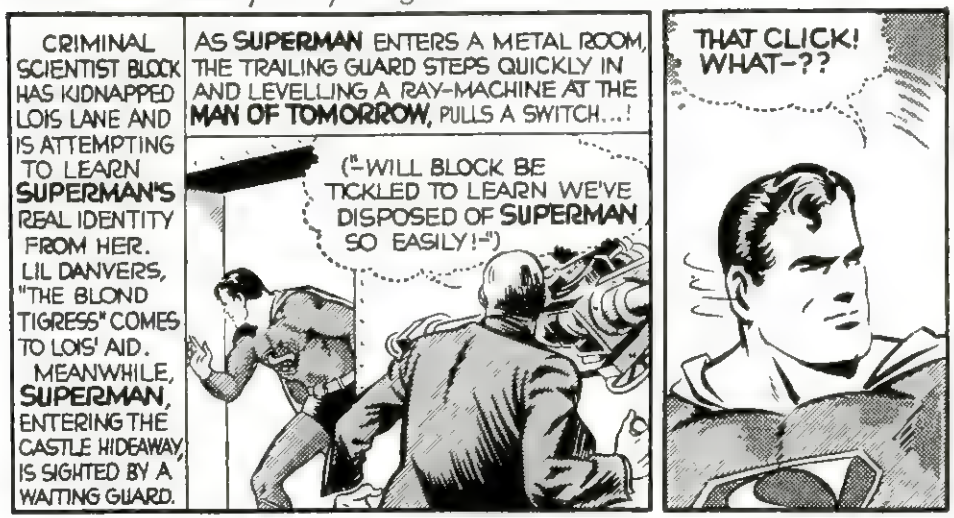

Over-eager

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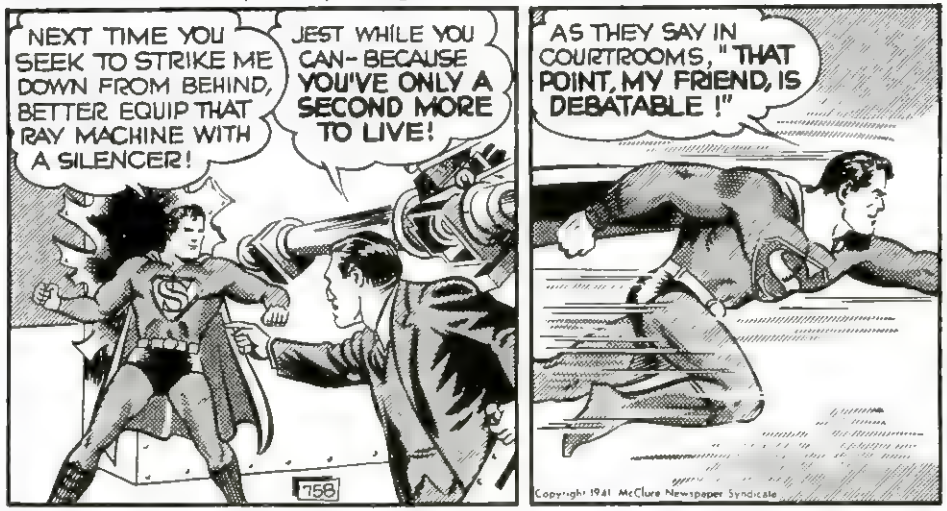
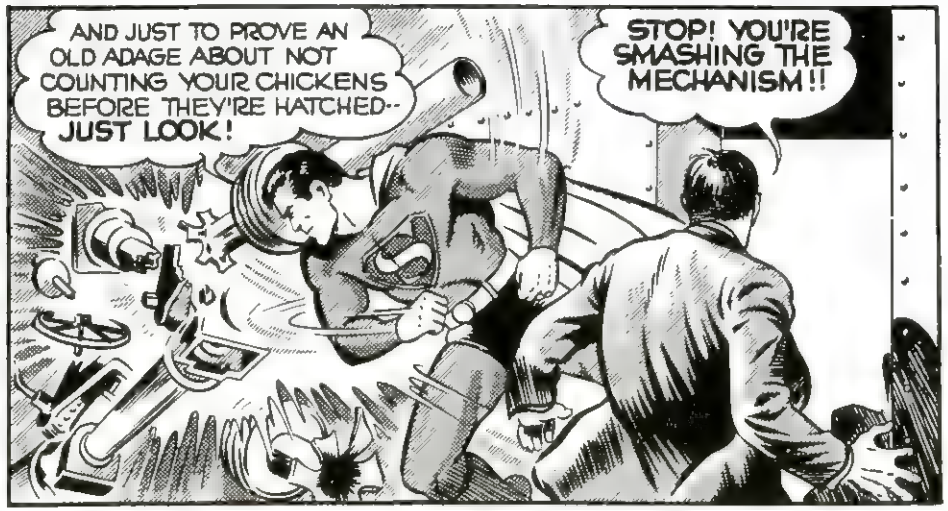


Out of Commission



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Tables Turned

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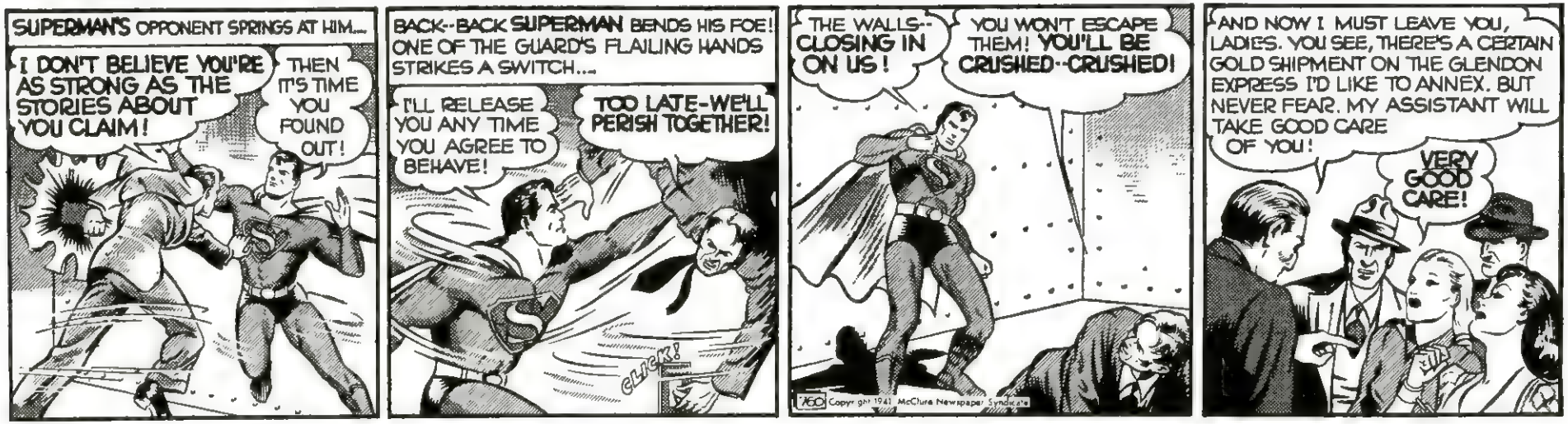
Tight Spot



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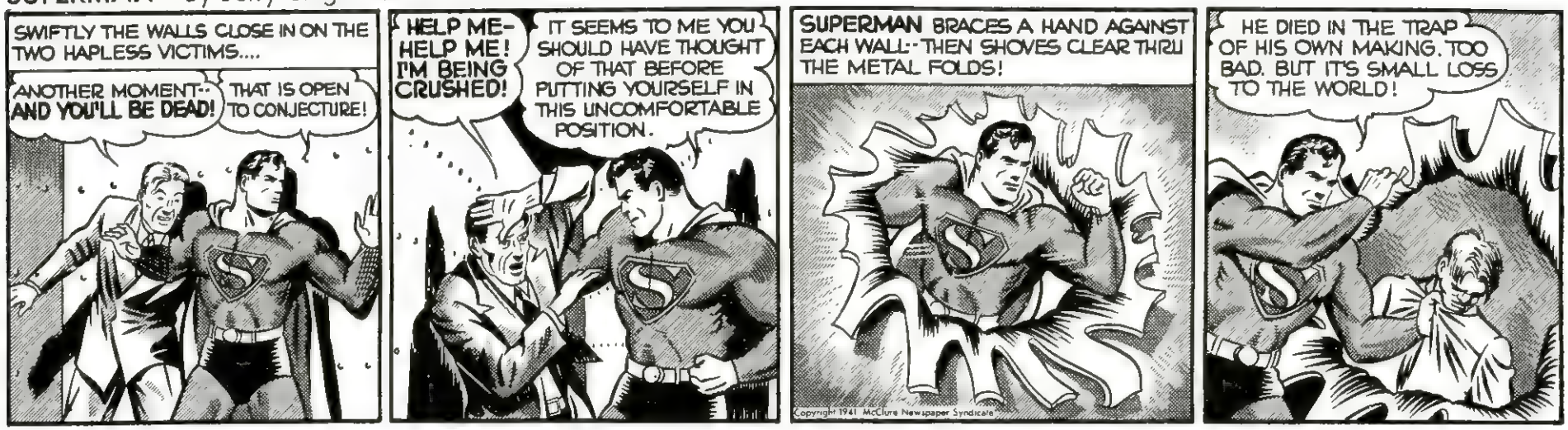
Narrow Squeeze



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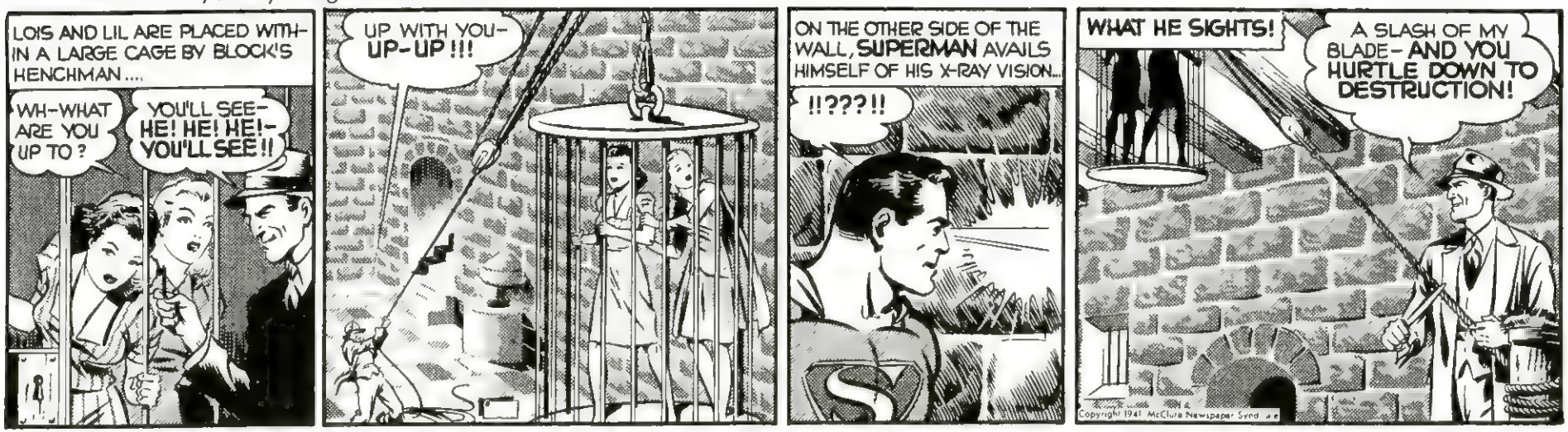
Repulsive Chap



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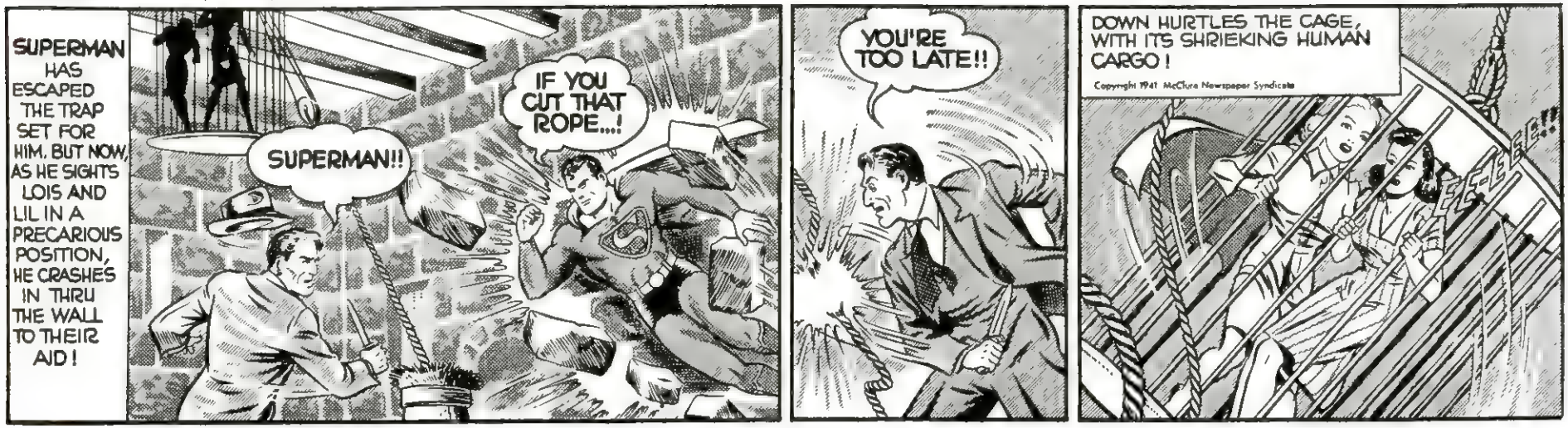
Nose Dive



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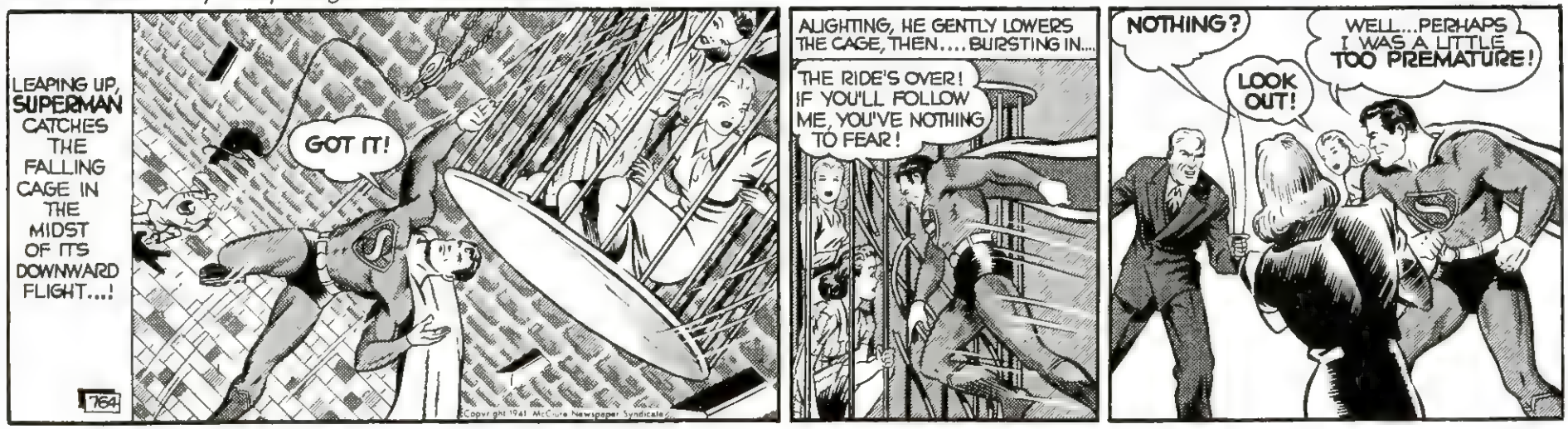
Still To Be Reckoned With



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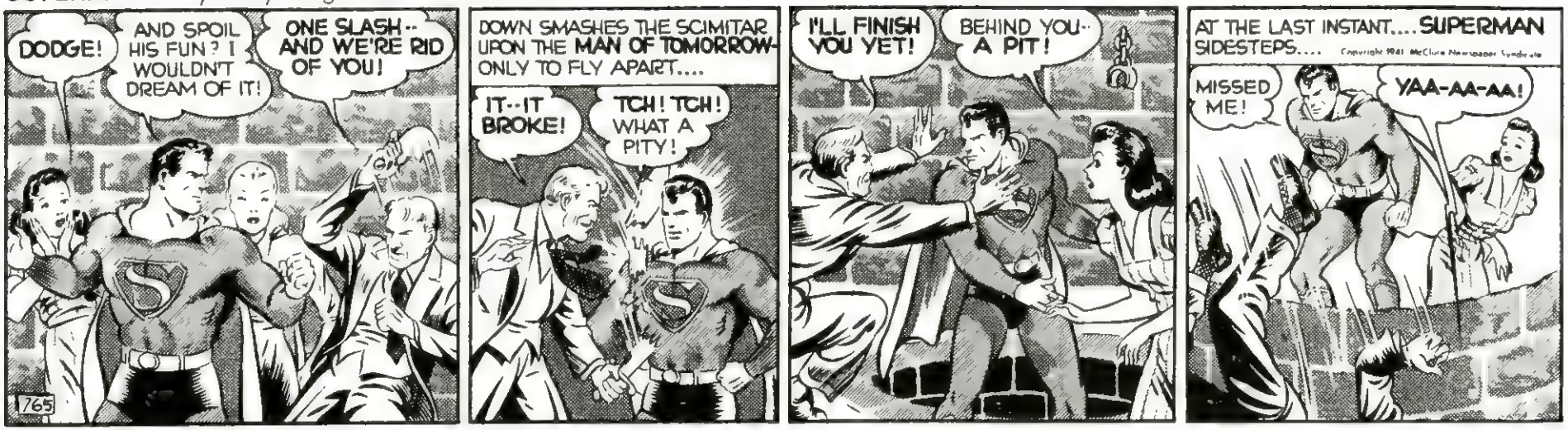
He Asked for It



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Avenged!

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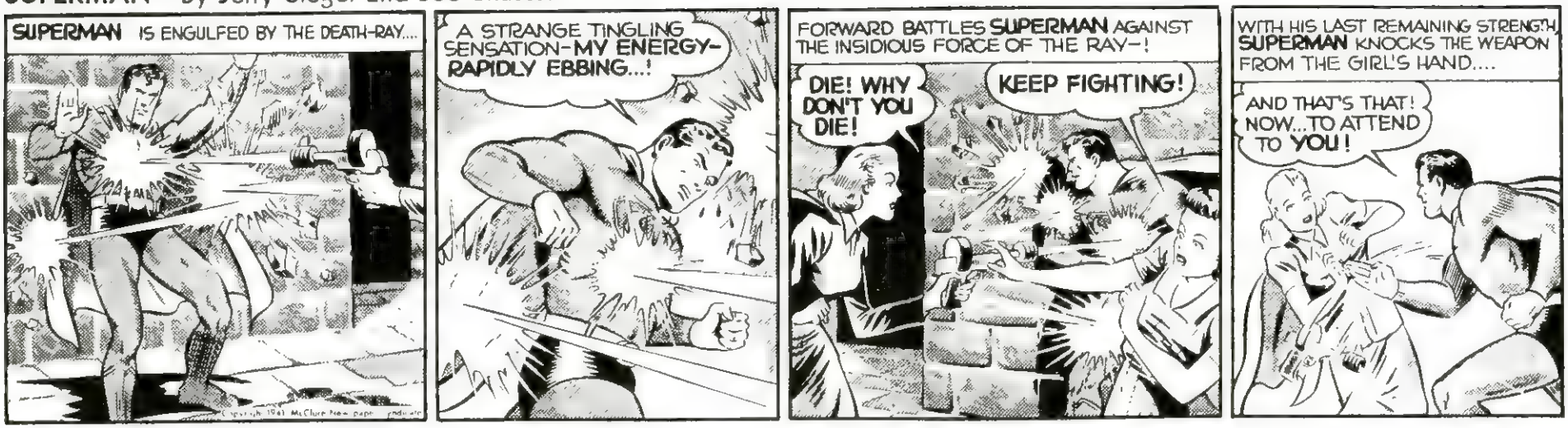
What's a Meer Death-Ray?



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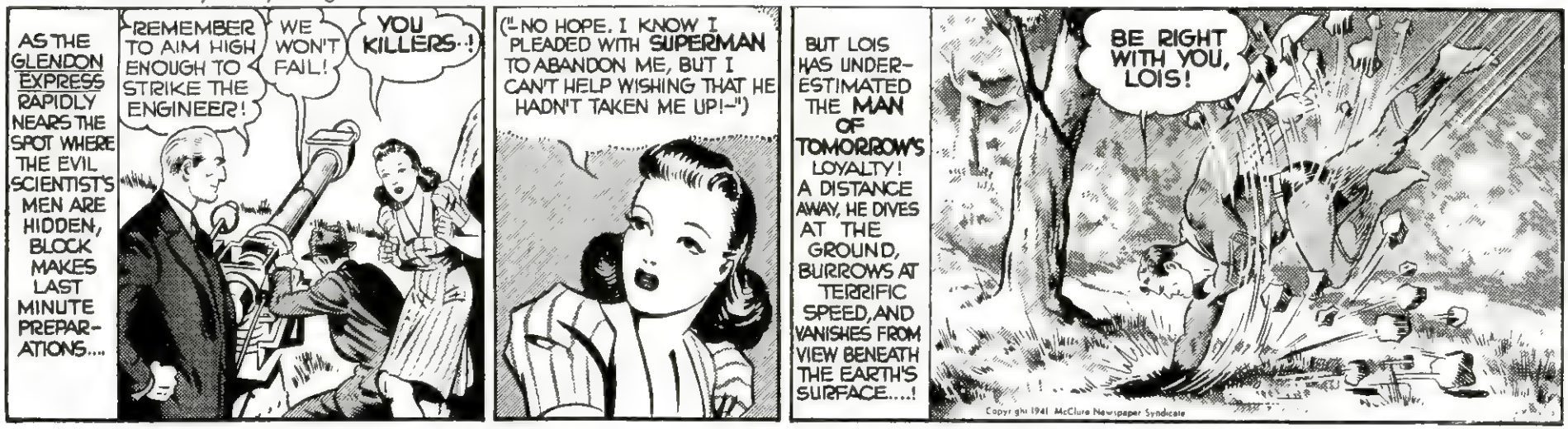
On the Trail

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Gentleman!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



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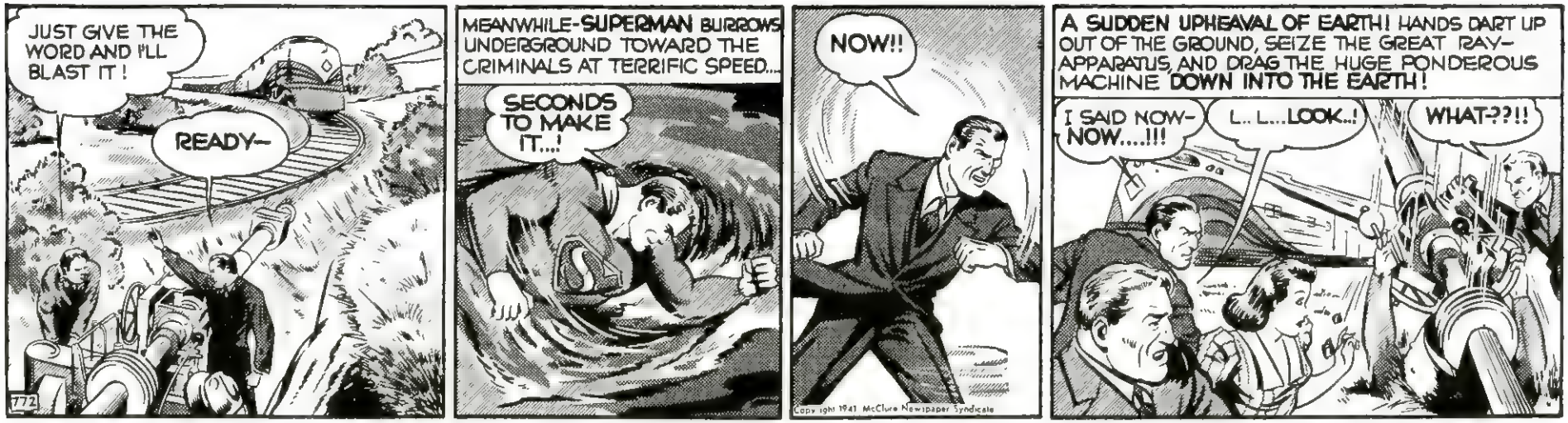

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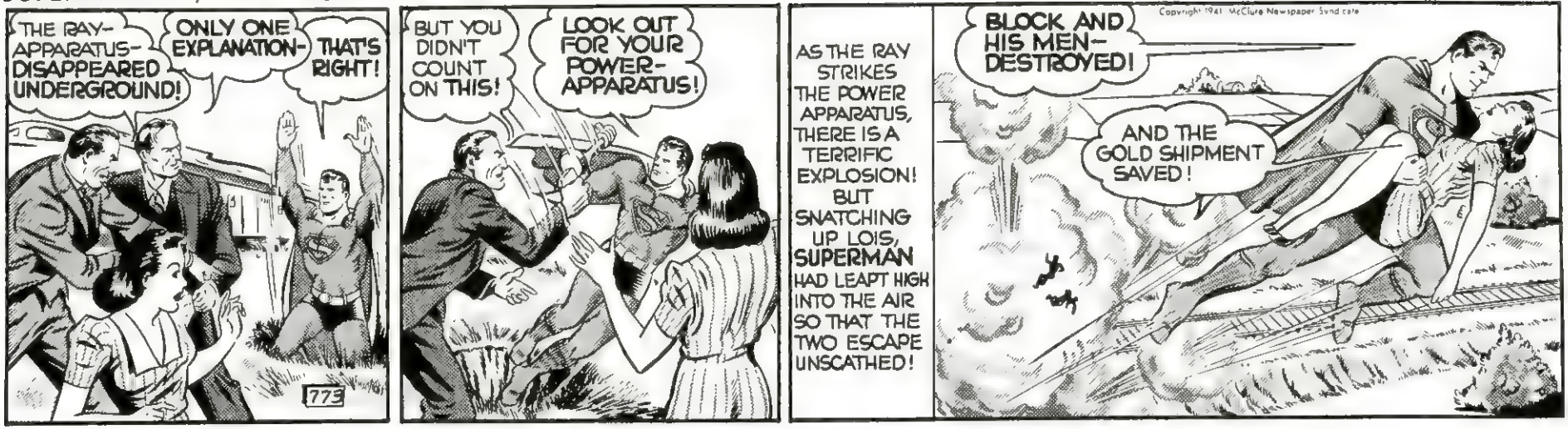

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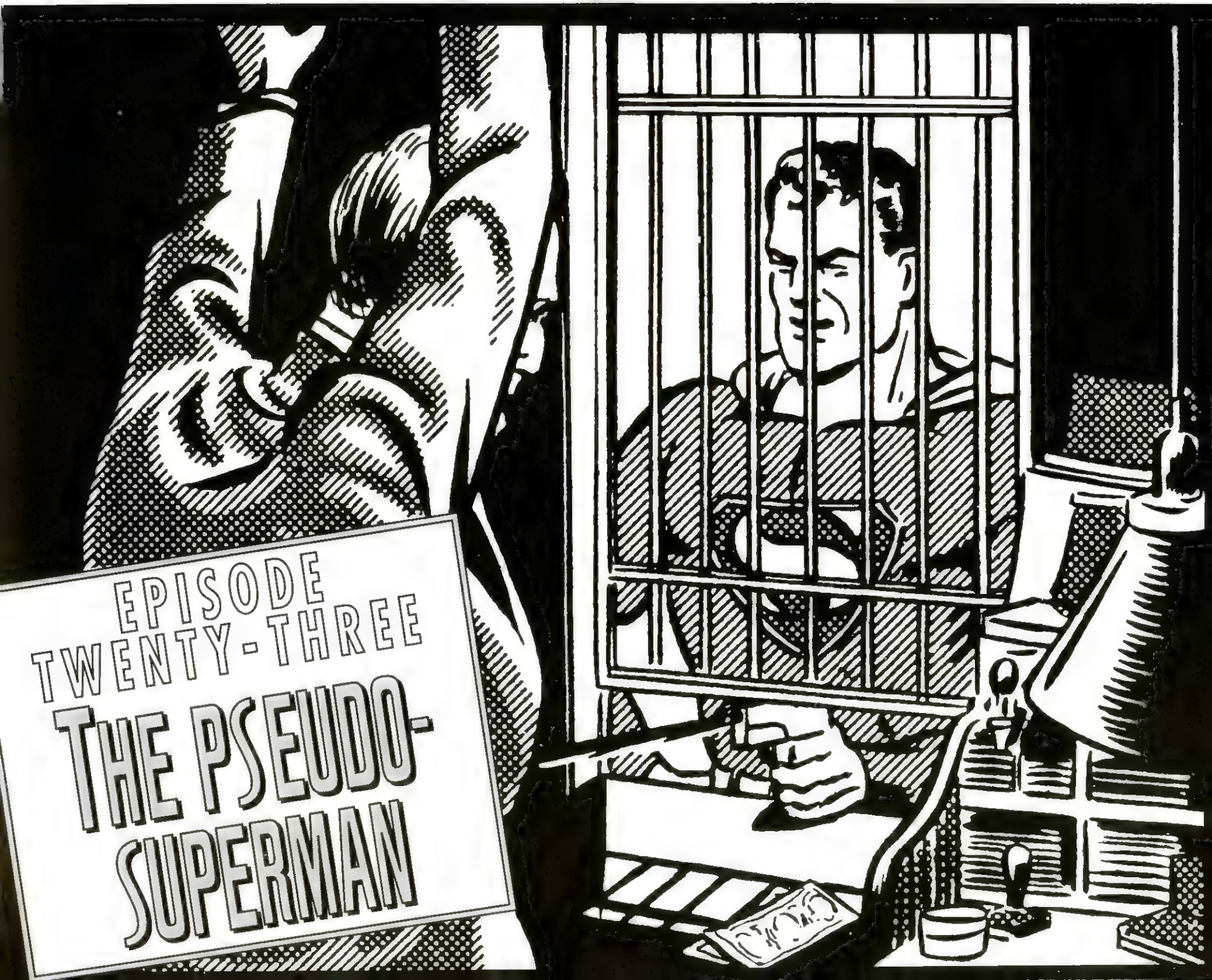
Elusive


EPISODE
TWENTY-THREE
THE PSEUDO-
SUPERMAN

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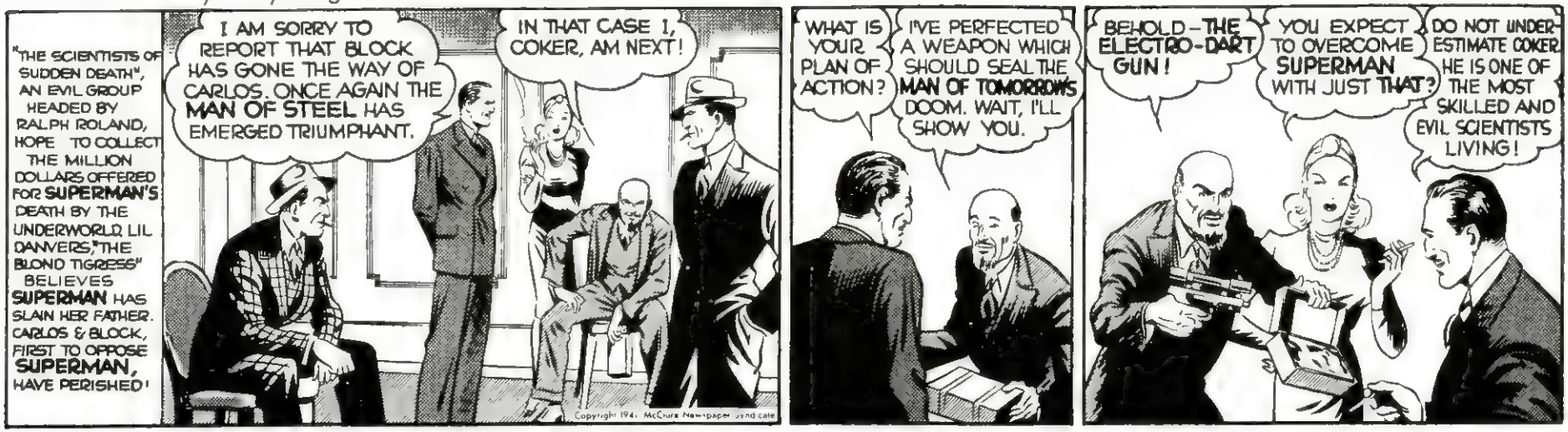
Plotters Meet



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Free Demonstration

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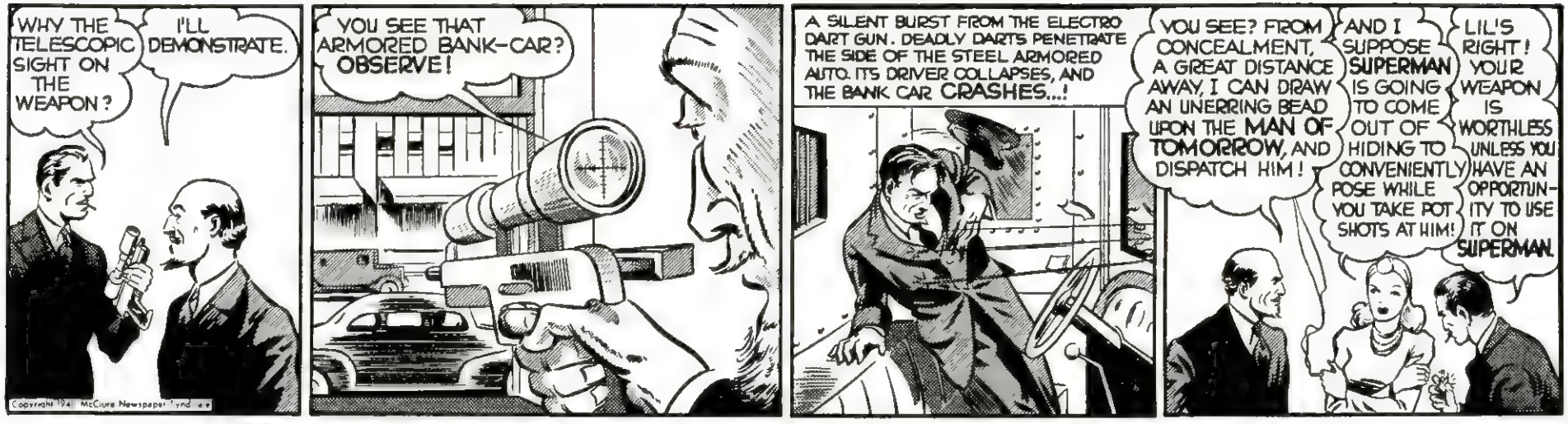
Ruthless



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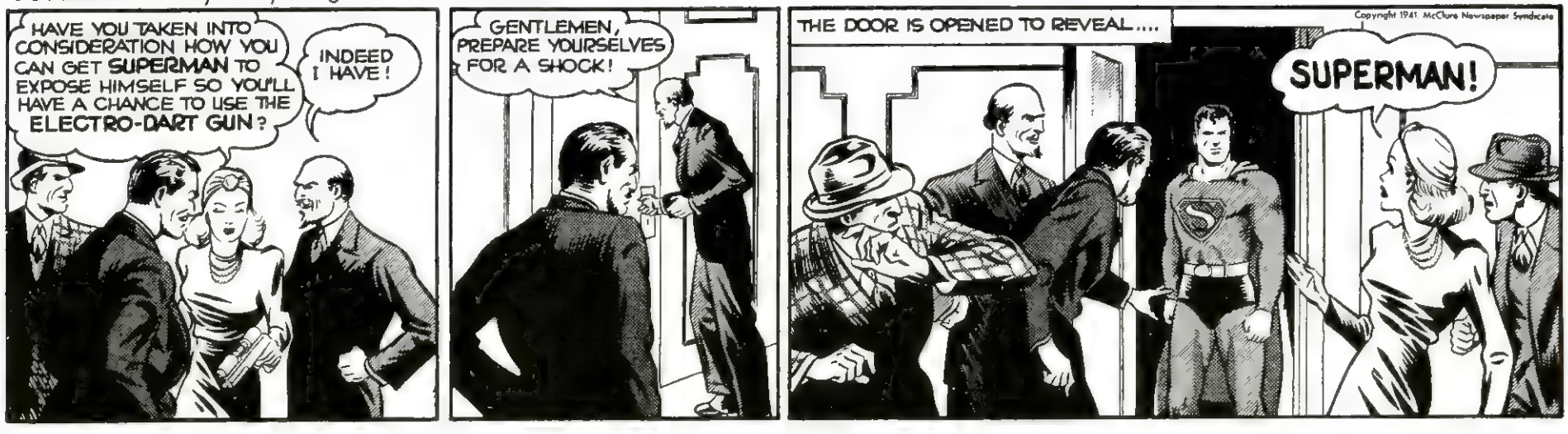
Hi, Folks!



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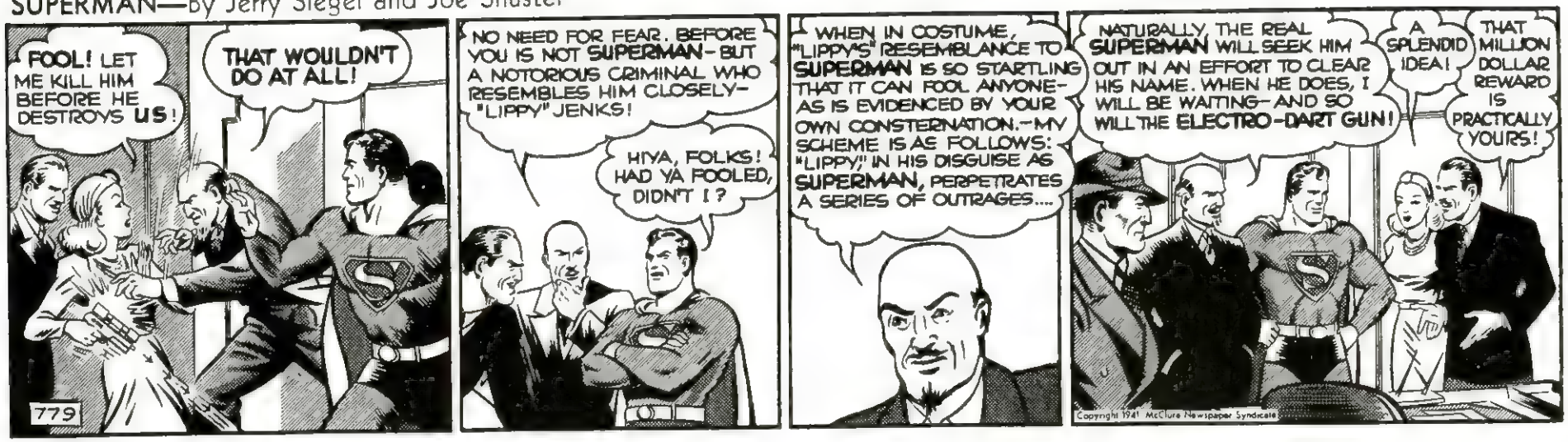
Ersatz!



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Double Trouble.

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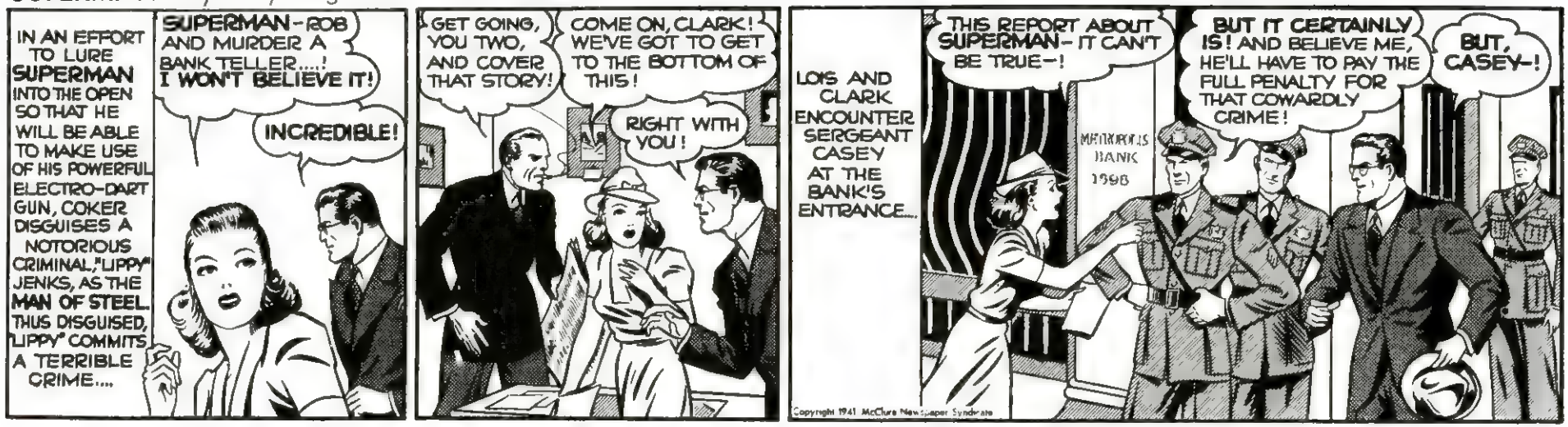
Law on the Trail.



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Looks Bad!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

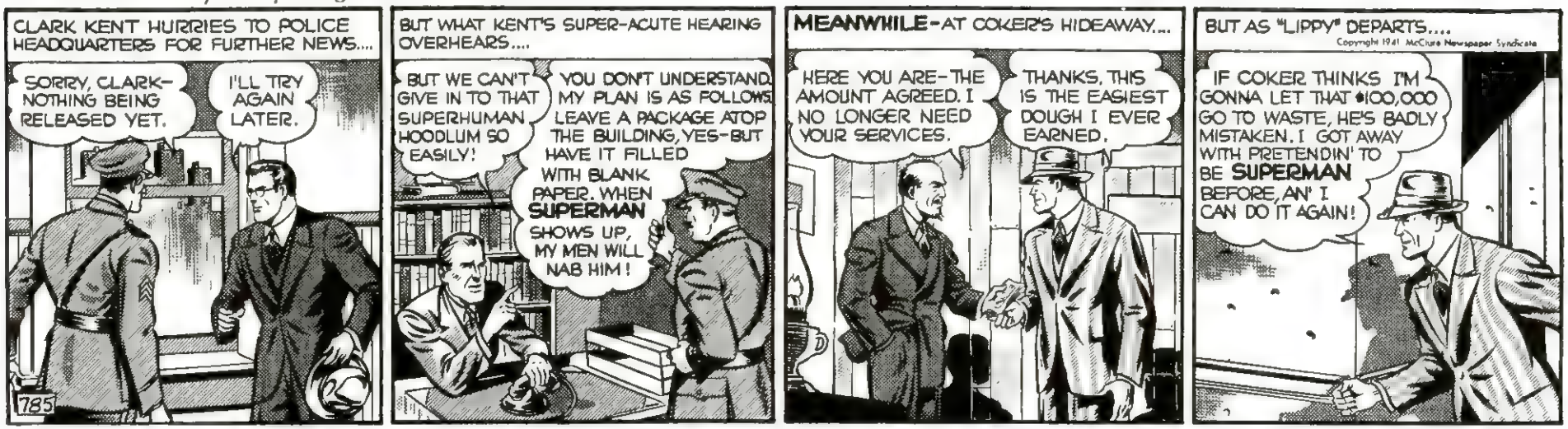
"Lippy" at Work

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Ultimatum

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

On His Own



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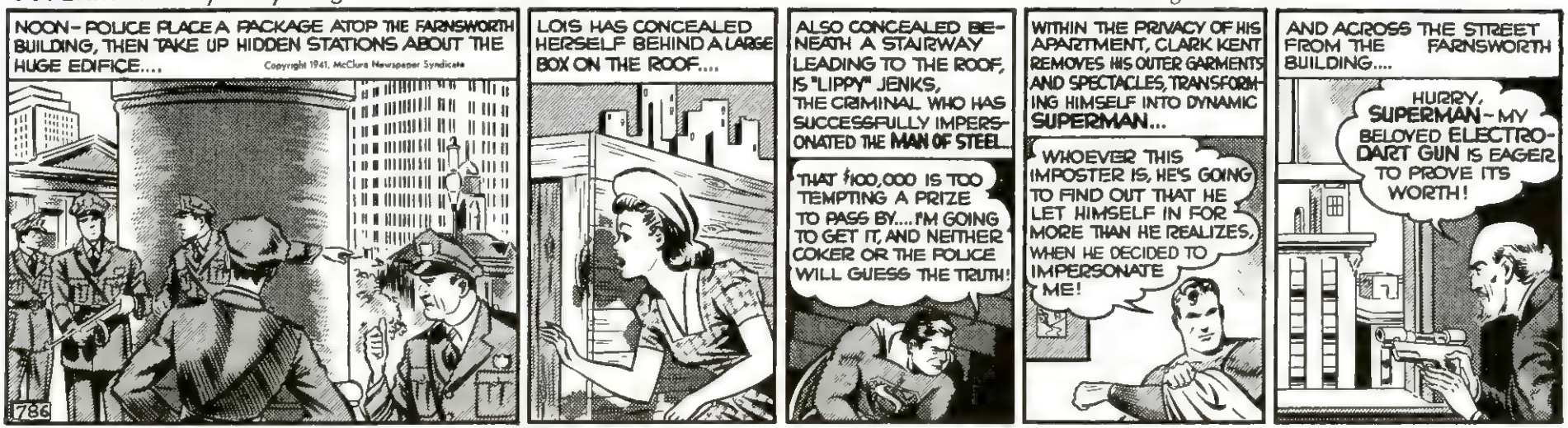
The Stage Is Set



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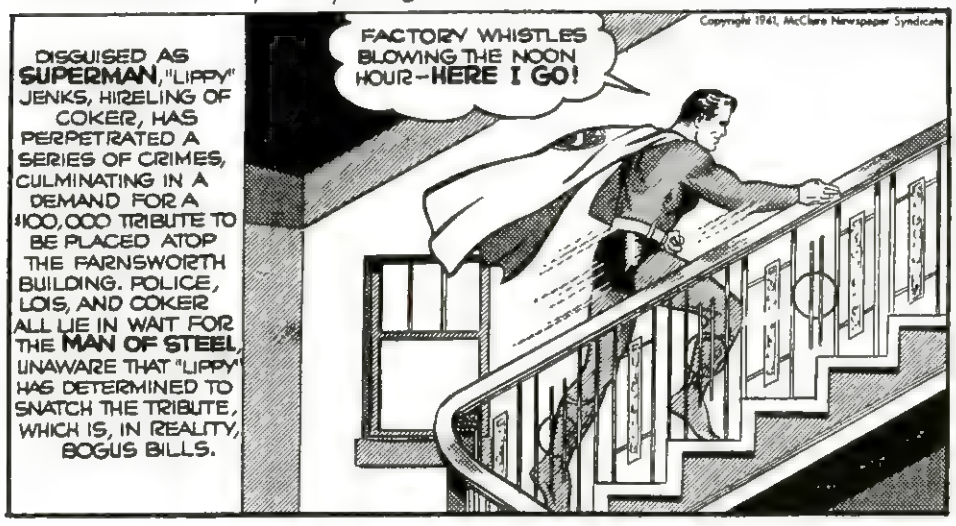
Face to Face



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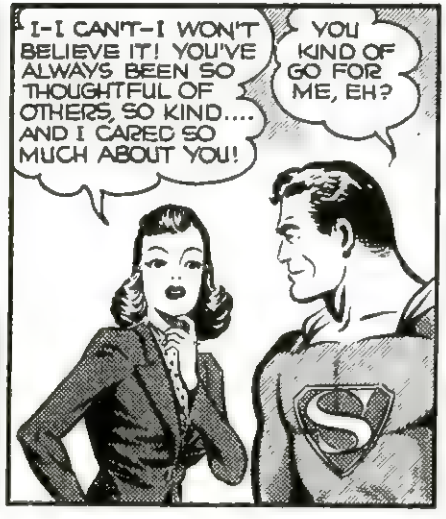
Impetuous Guy!



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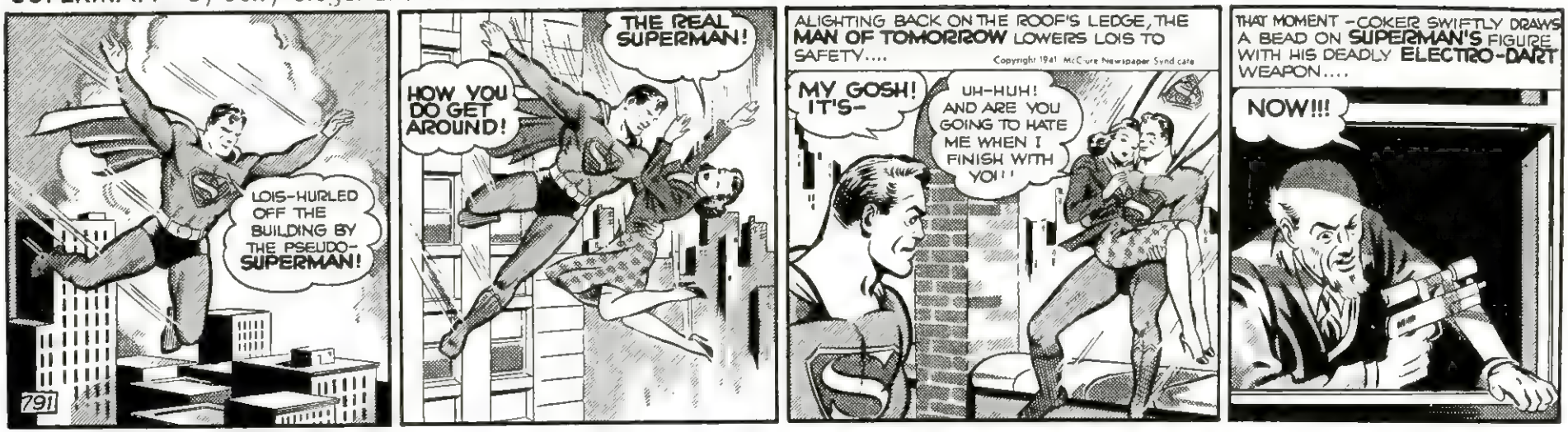
Her Lips Are Not for "Tippy"

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Gentleman

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Two of a Kind



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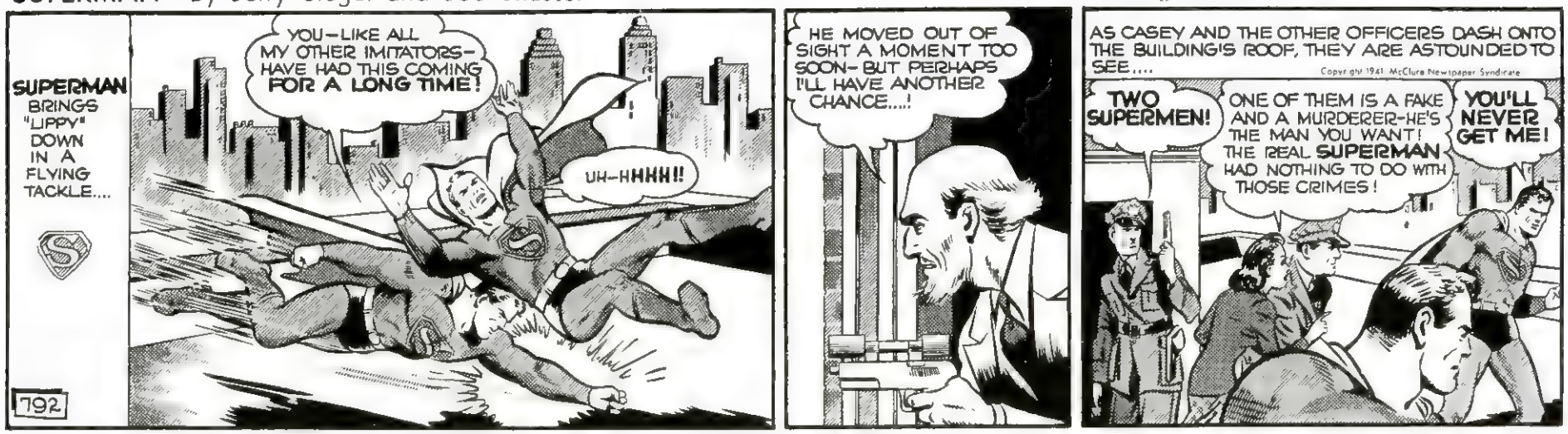
Seeing Double



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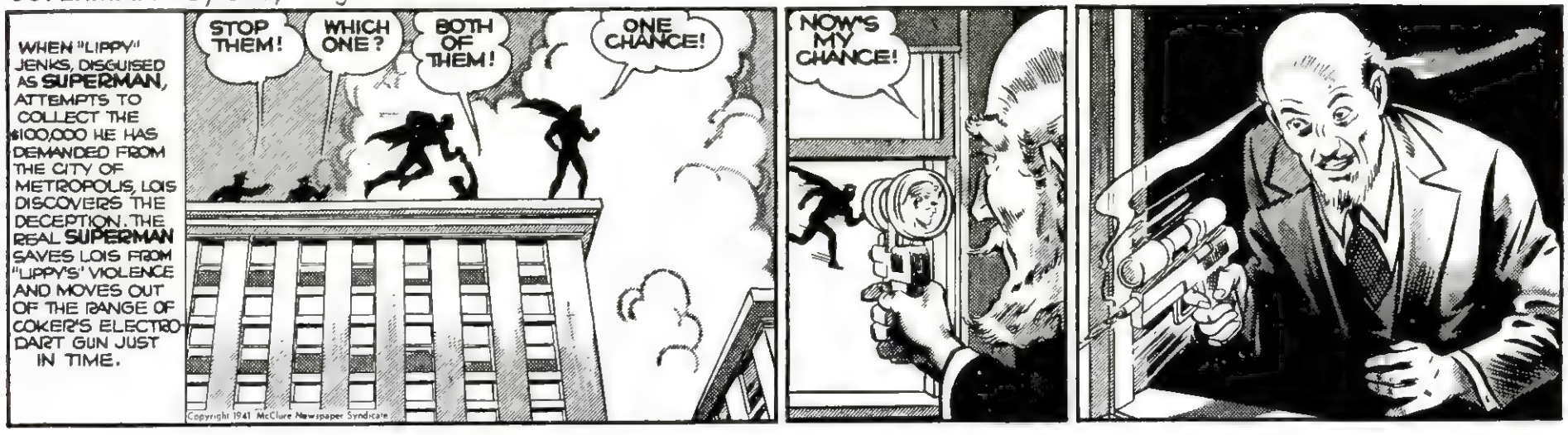
Coker's Opportunity



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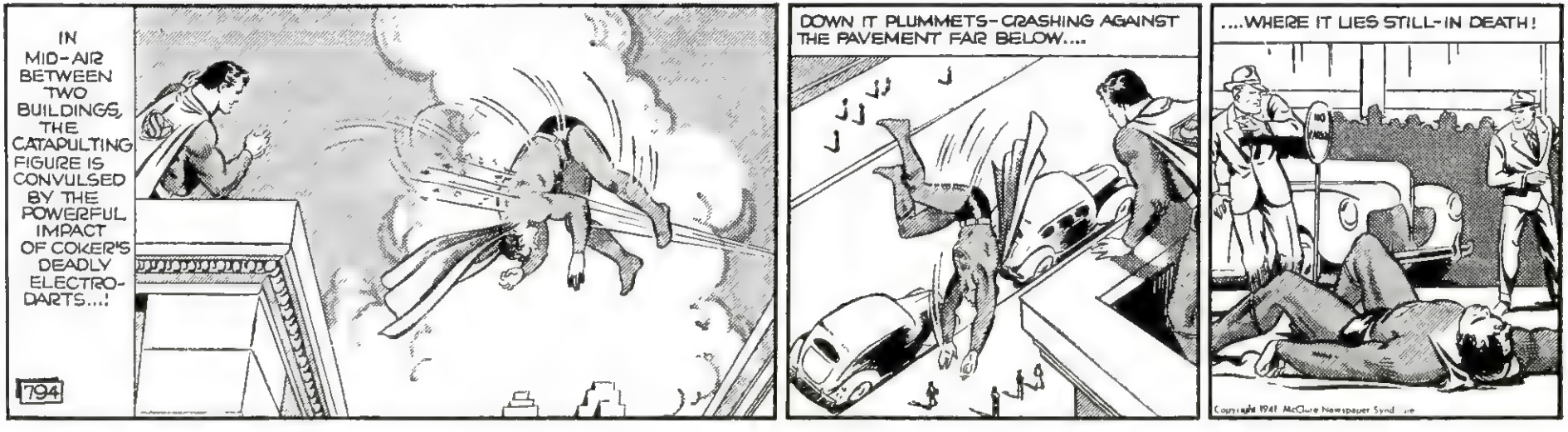
The End of Superman???



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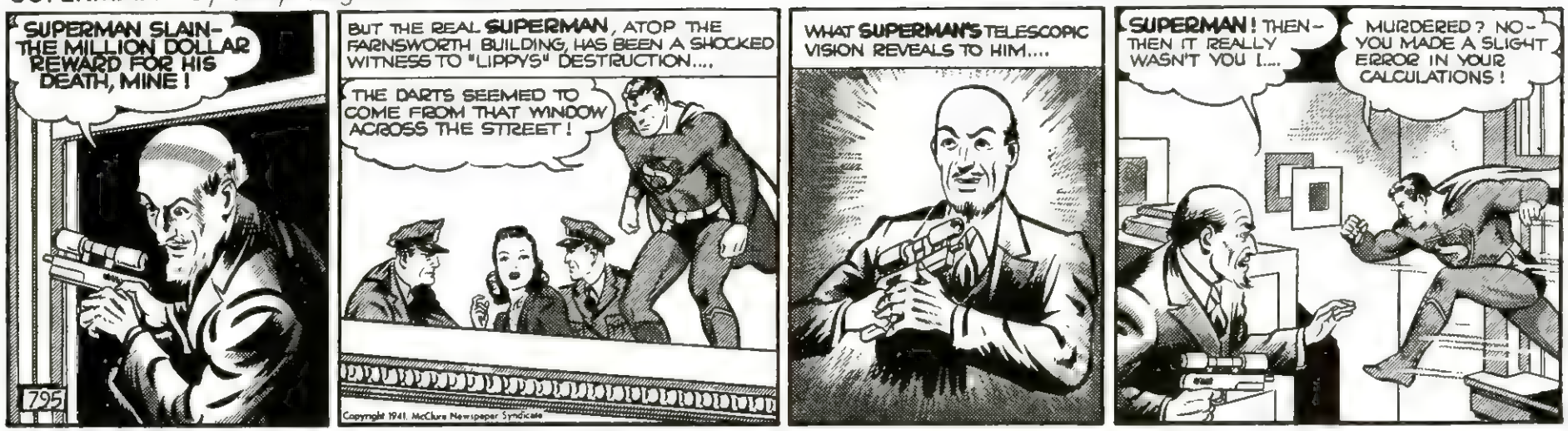
A Slight Miscalculation



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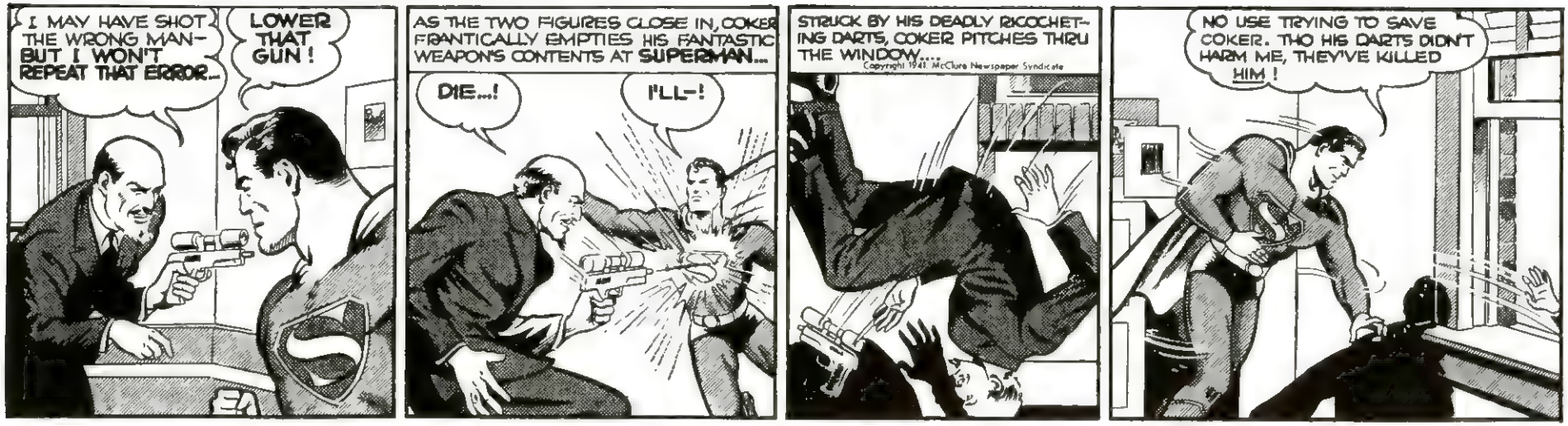

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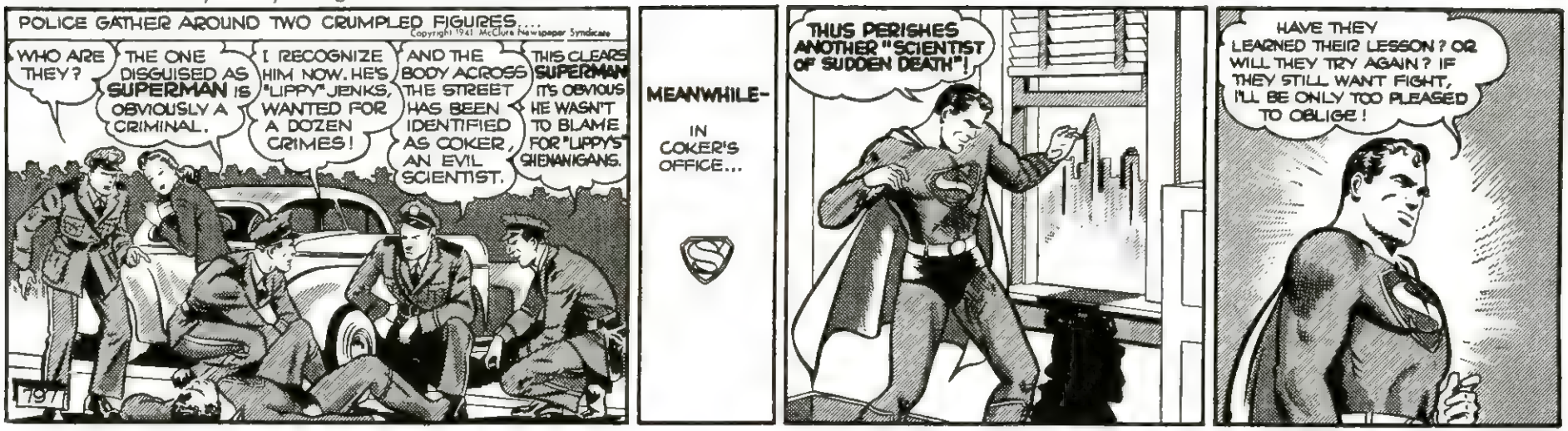
Ready and Willing



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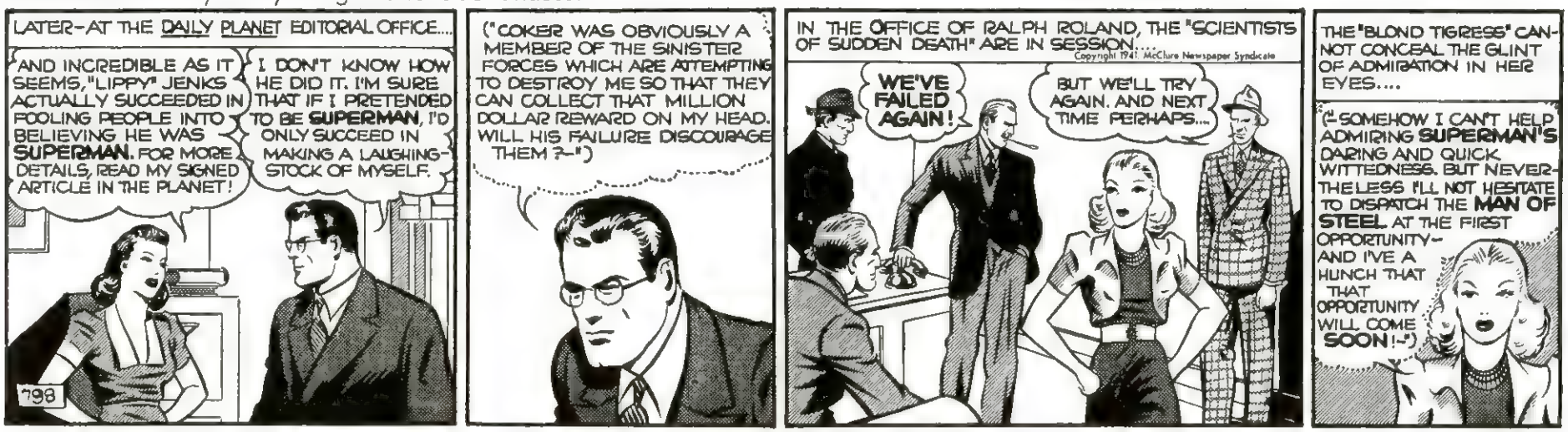
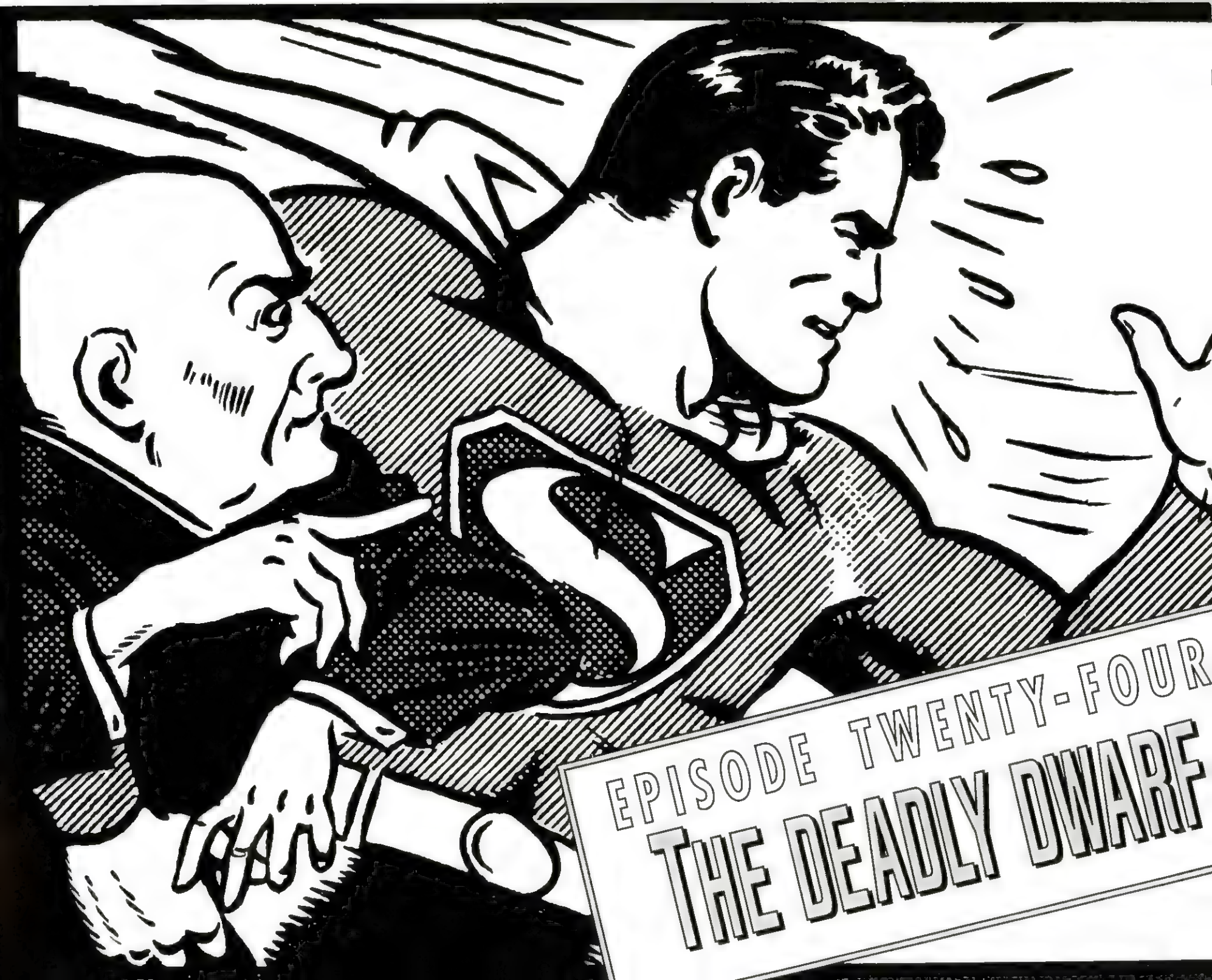
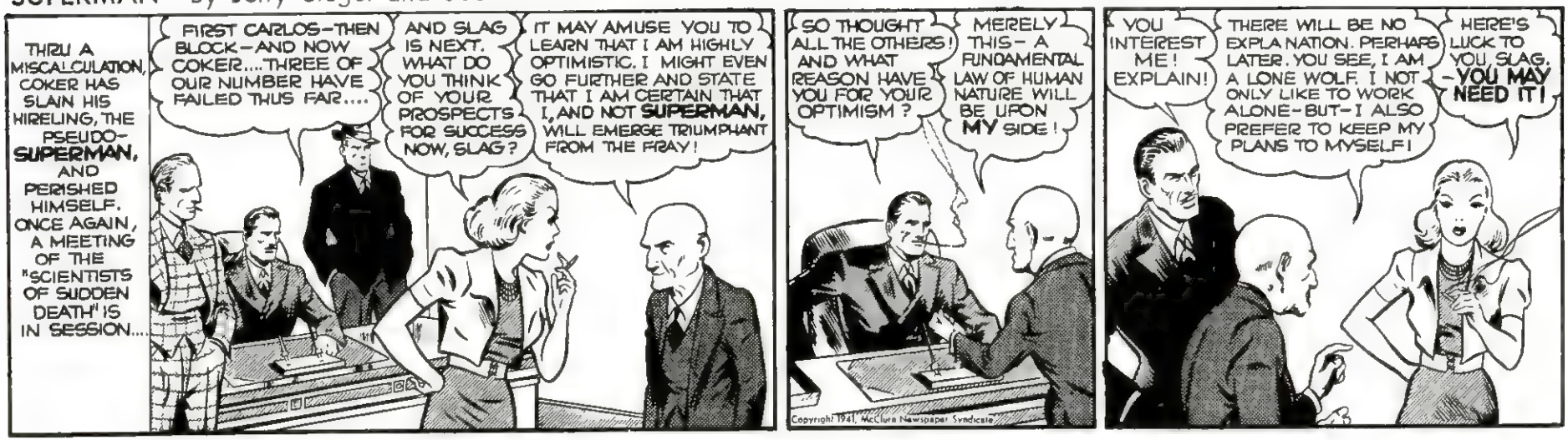
What Next?




EPISODE TWENTY-FOUR
THE DEADLY DWARF

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Enter Slag



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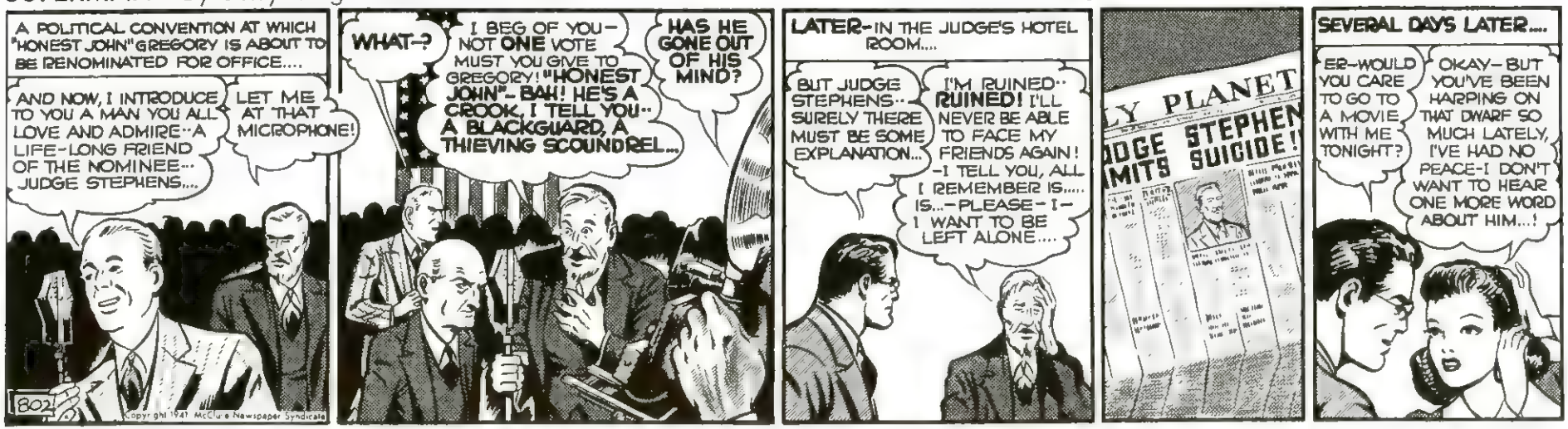
The Evil Dwarf

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

More of Slag's Work

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Slag Strikes Again



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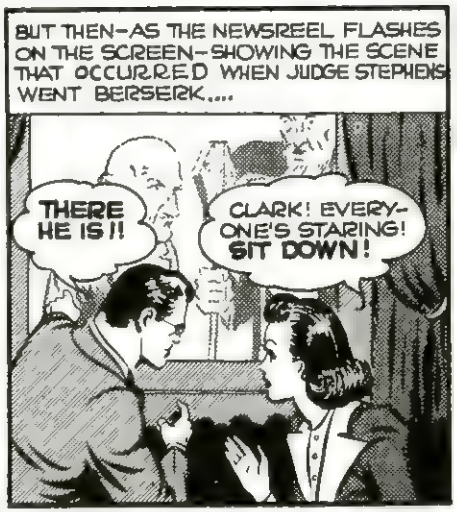
Discovery!



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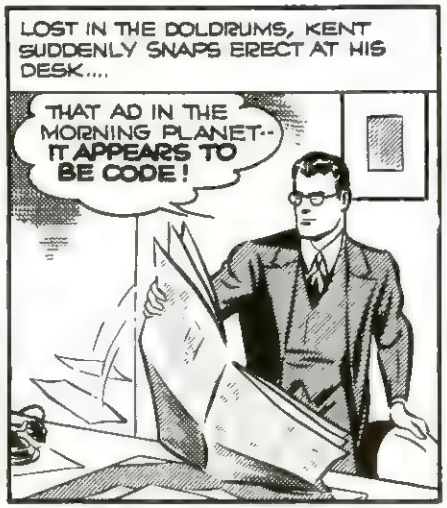
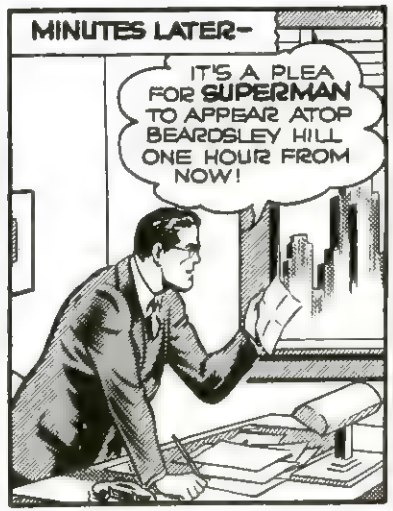
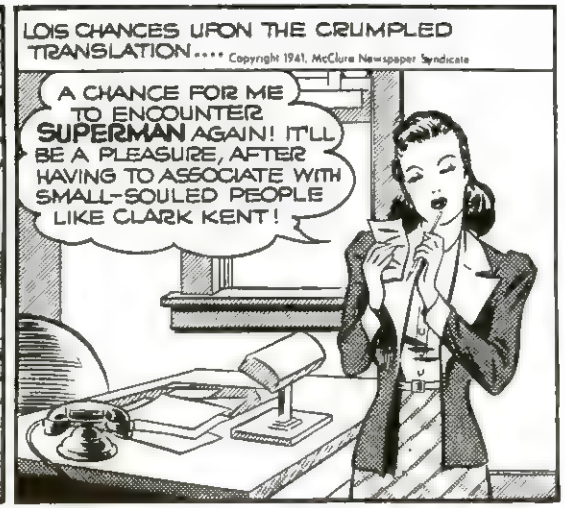
Help Wanted







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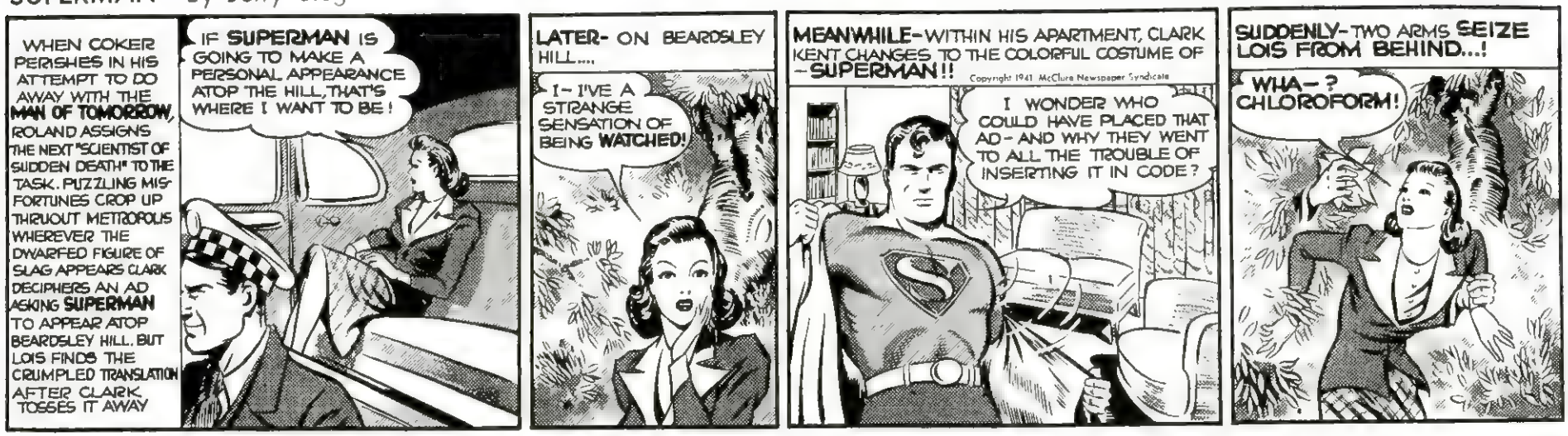
Leave It to Lois



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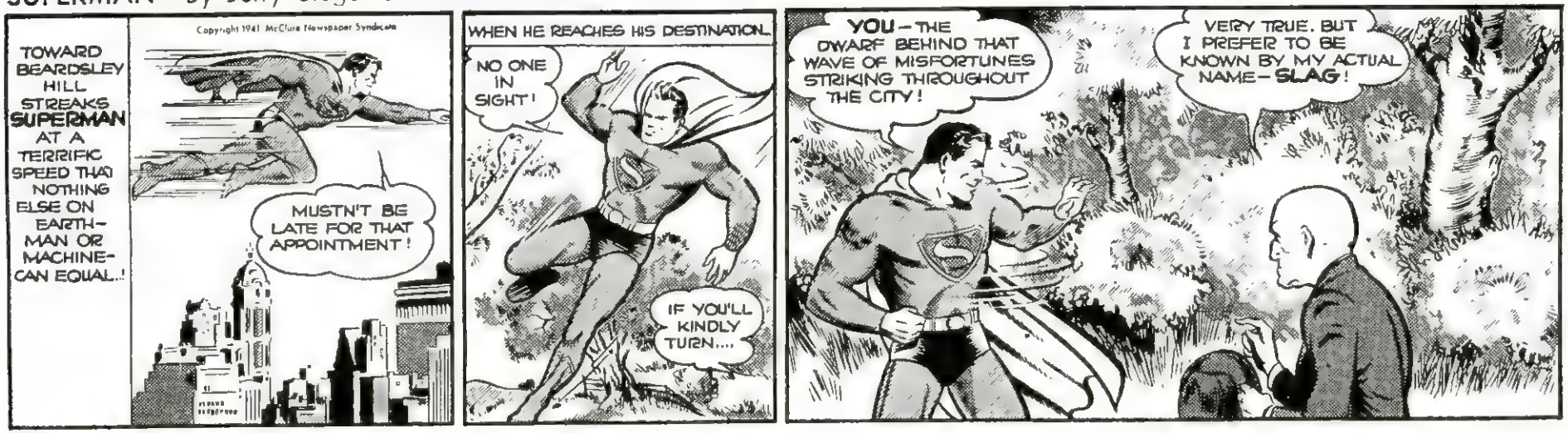
Foes Meet



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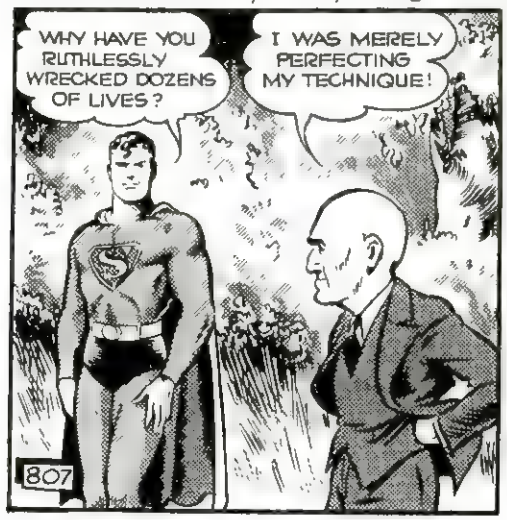
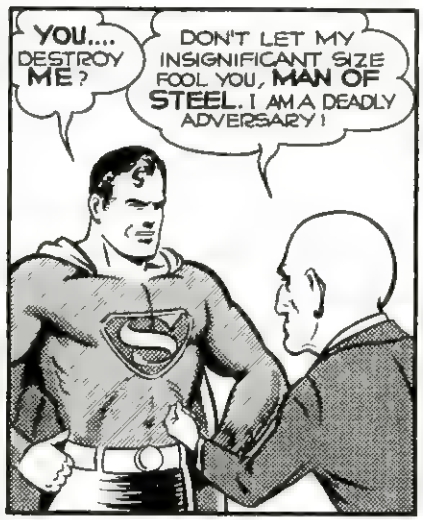
The Kitten Has Claws





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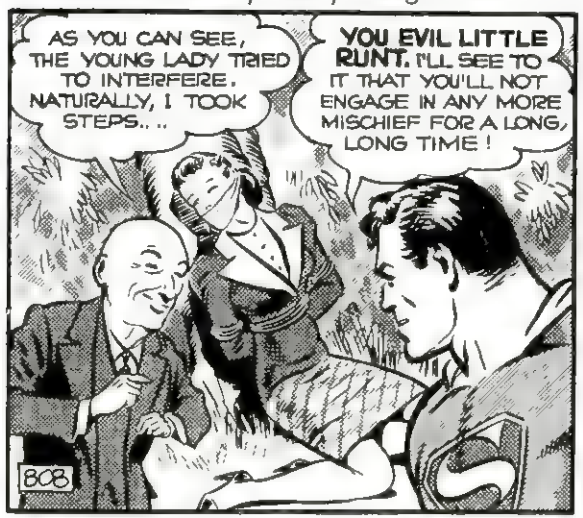
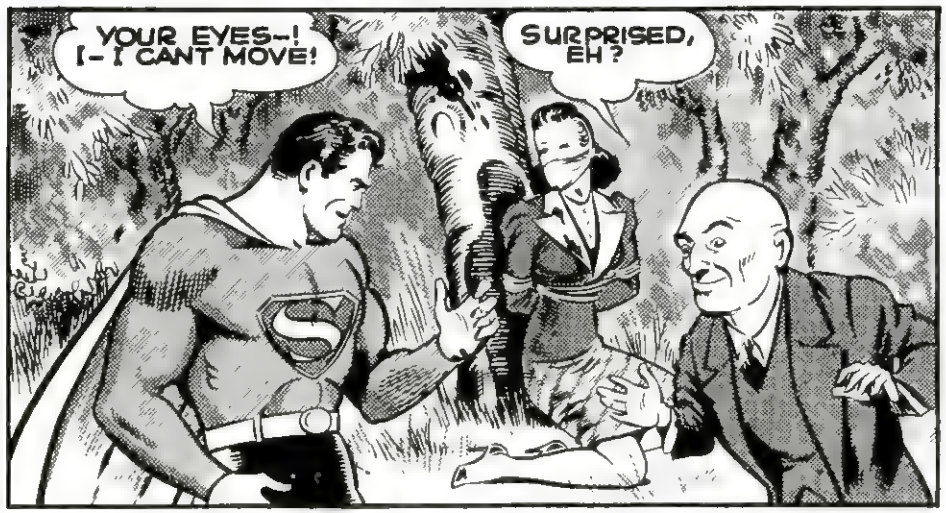
Slag's Specialty





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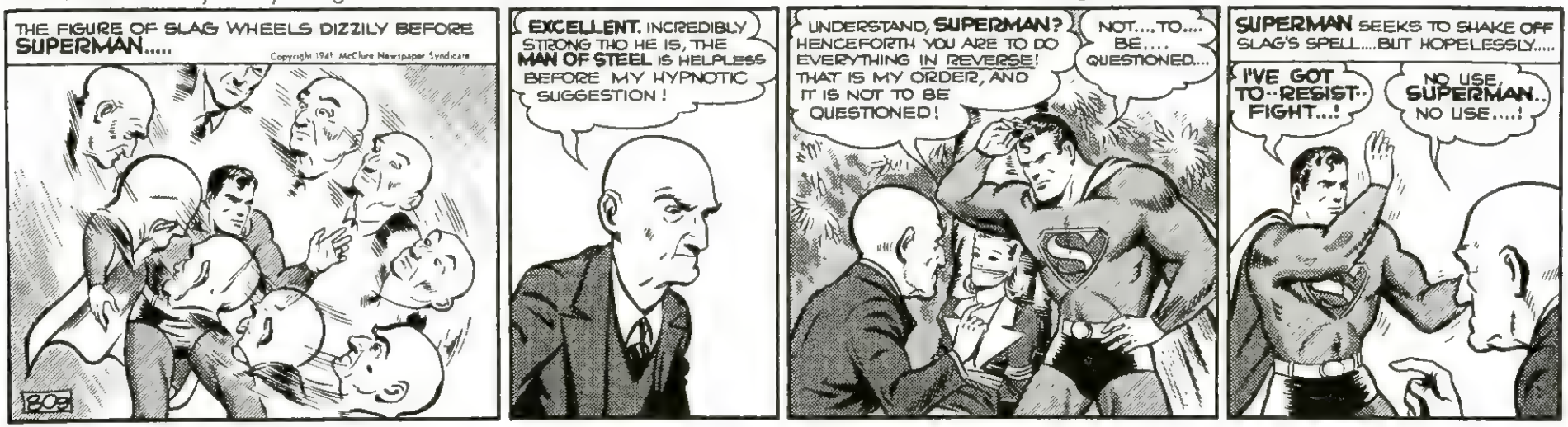
Power of Suggestion



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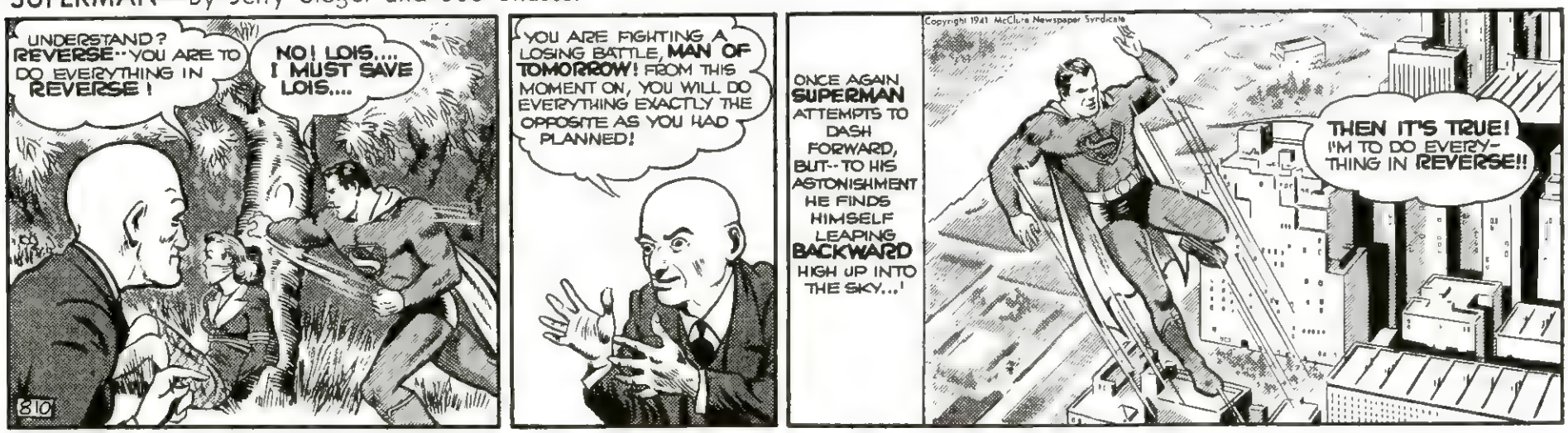

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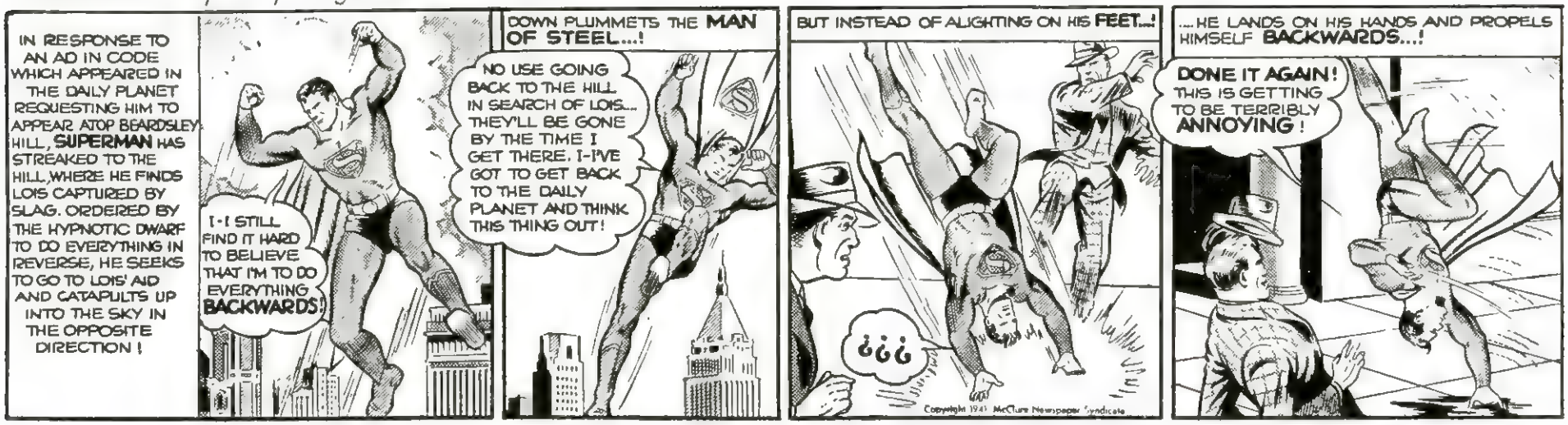
Topsy-Turvy



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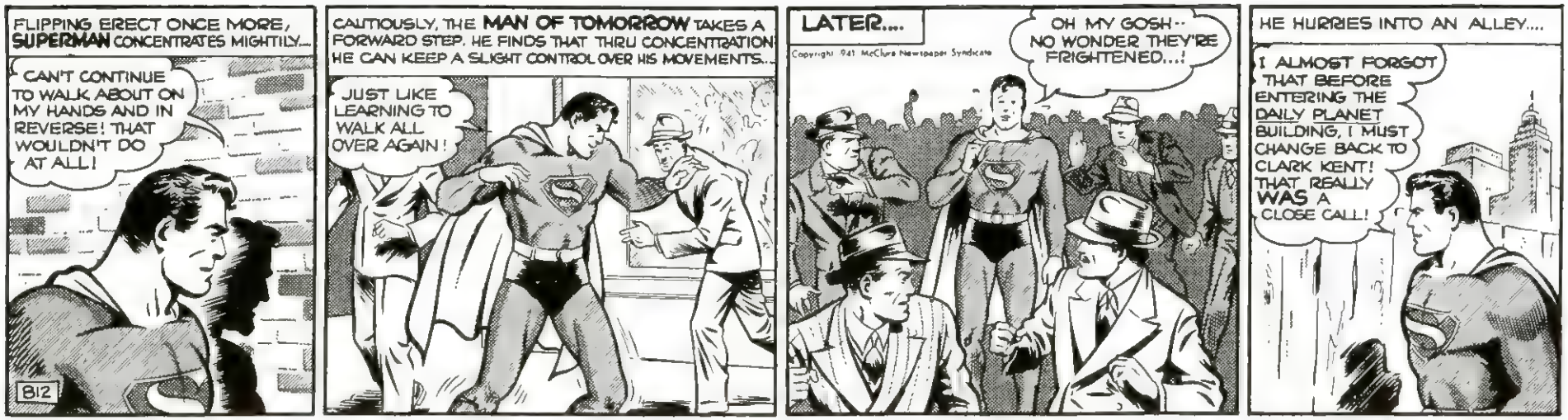
Absent-Minded



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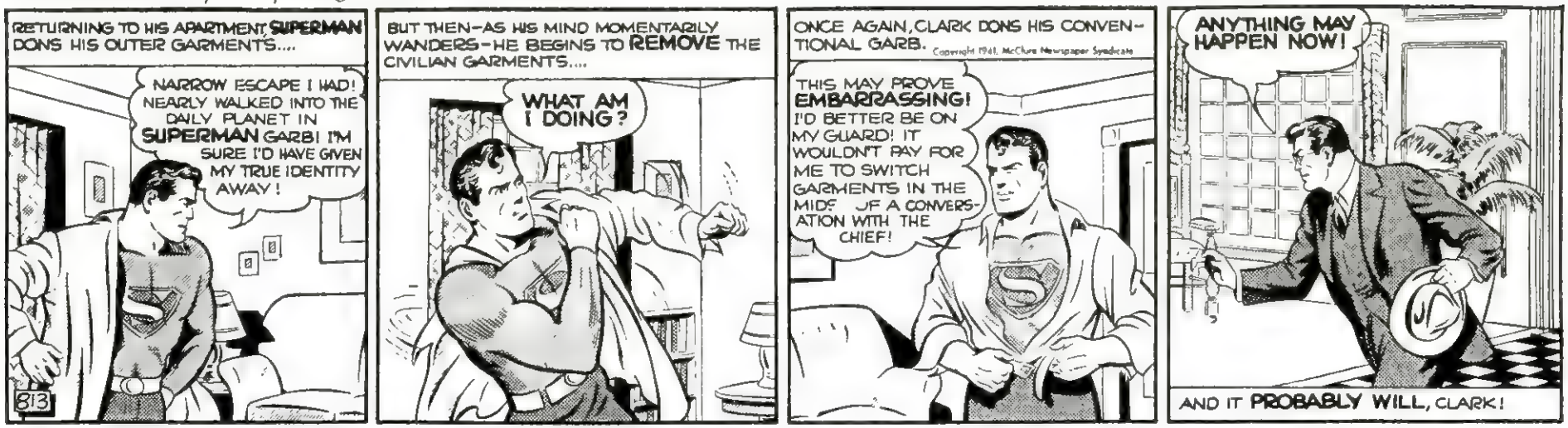
On Again, Off Again



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Boner

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SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

An Unguarded Moment

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Confusing Herculo

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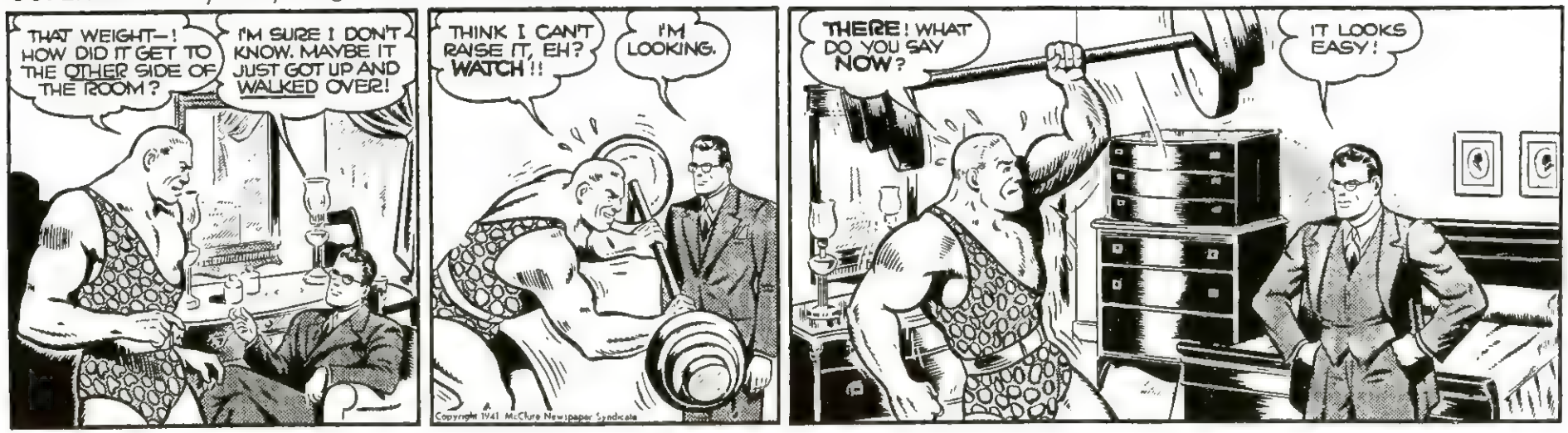
Not Easily Impressed



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He Who Laughs Last

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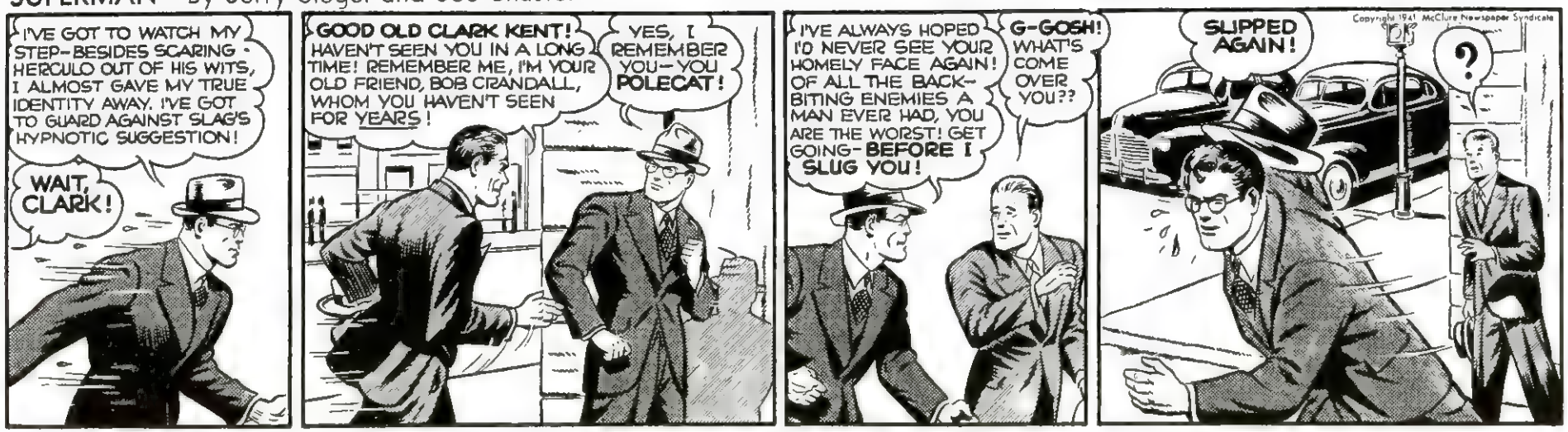
Friend . . . Or Foe?



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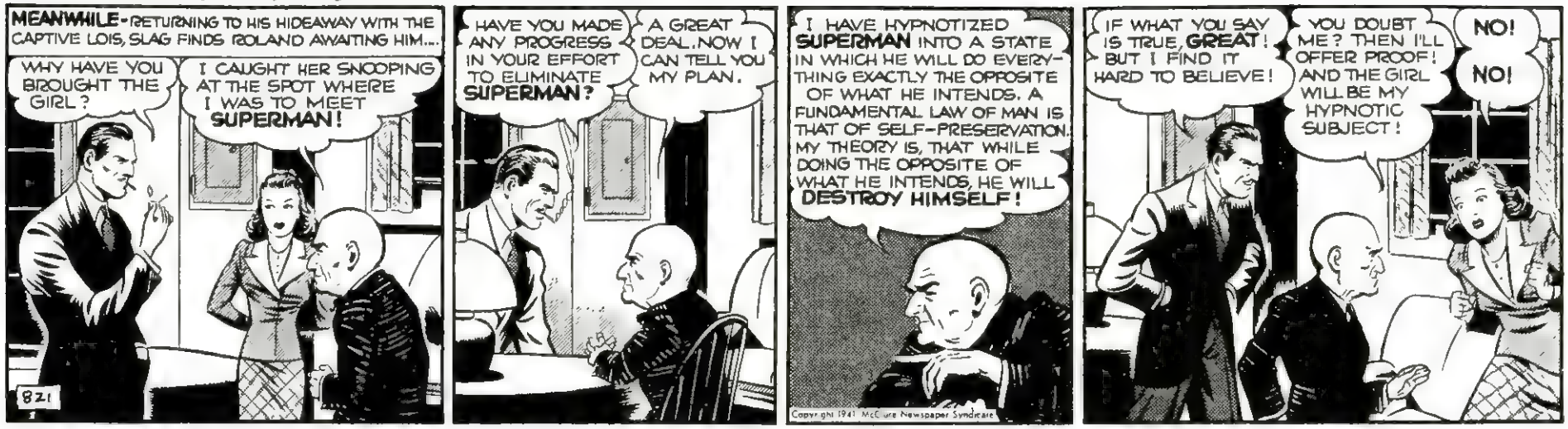
Slag's Plan



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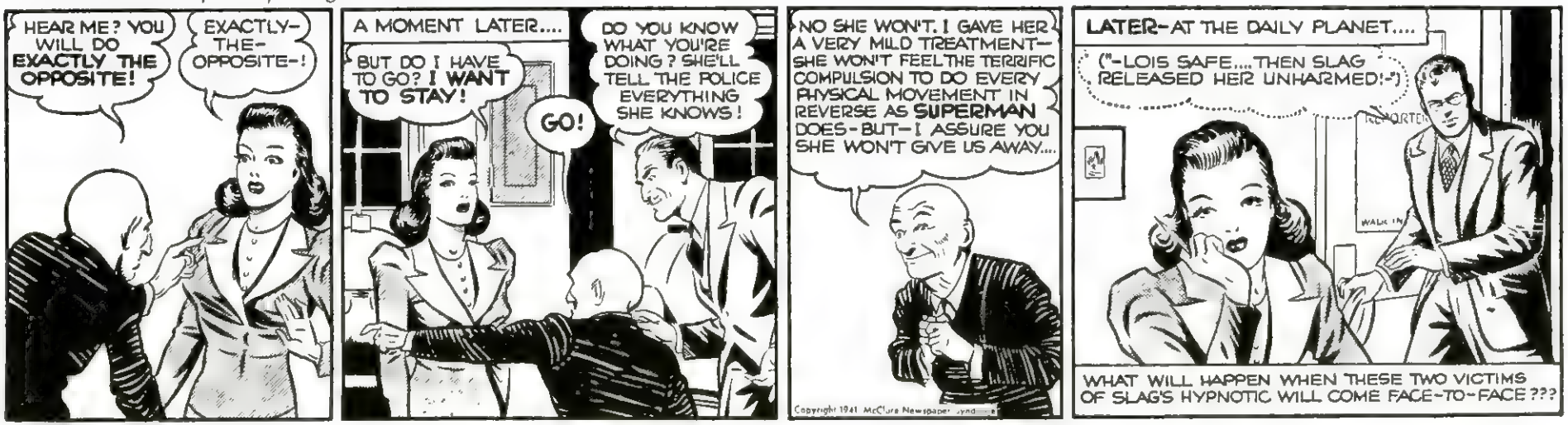
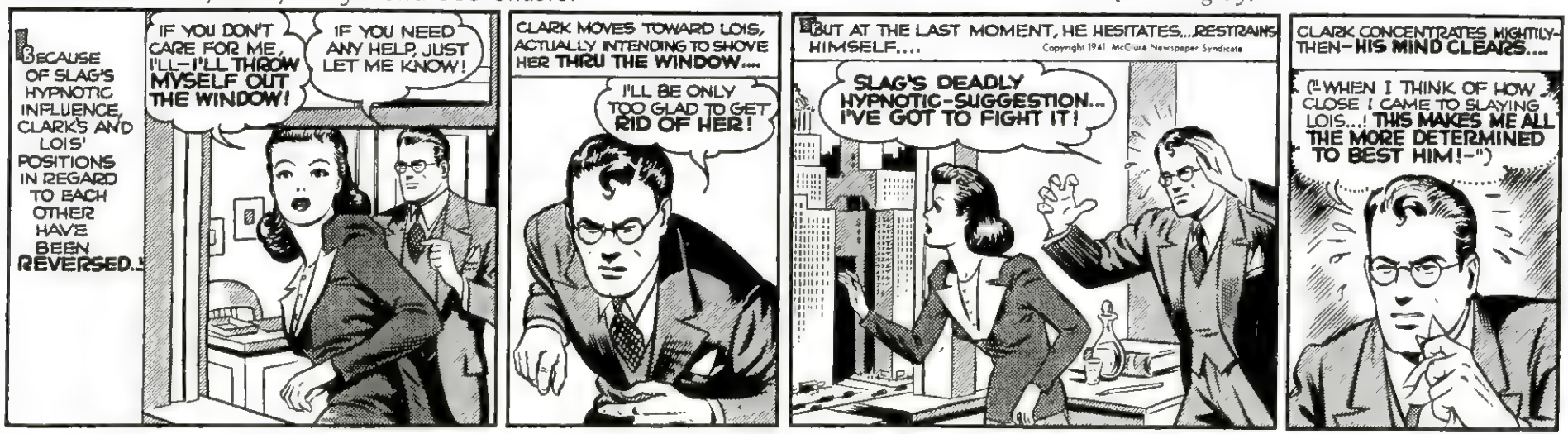


Superman—*Turnabout*

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Near Tragedy!



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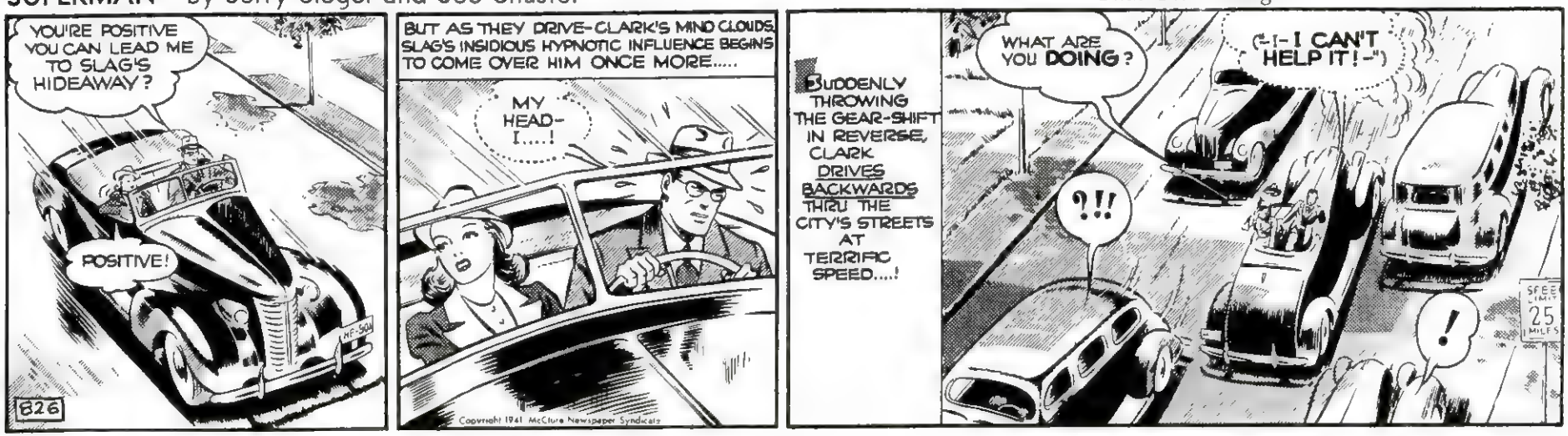
Back to Normal

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

That Old Feeling



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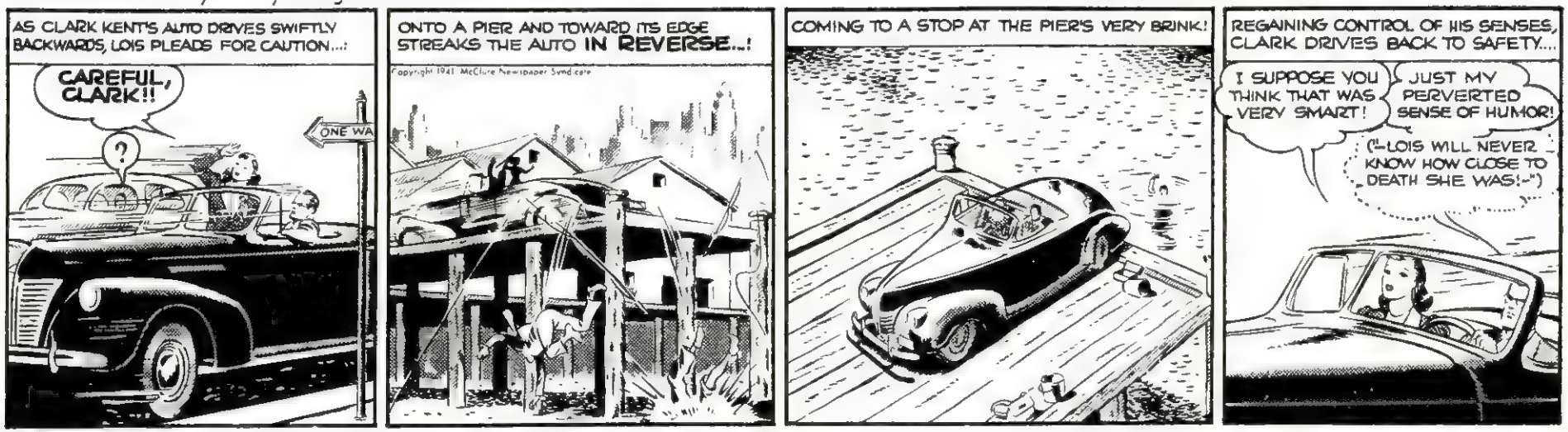
In the Nick of Time



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Captured!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

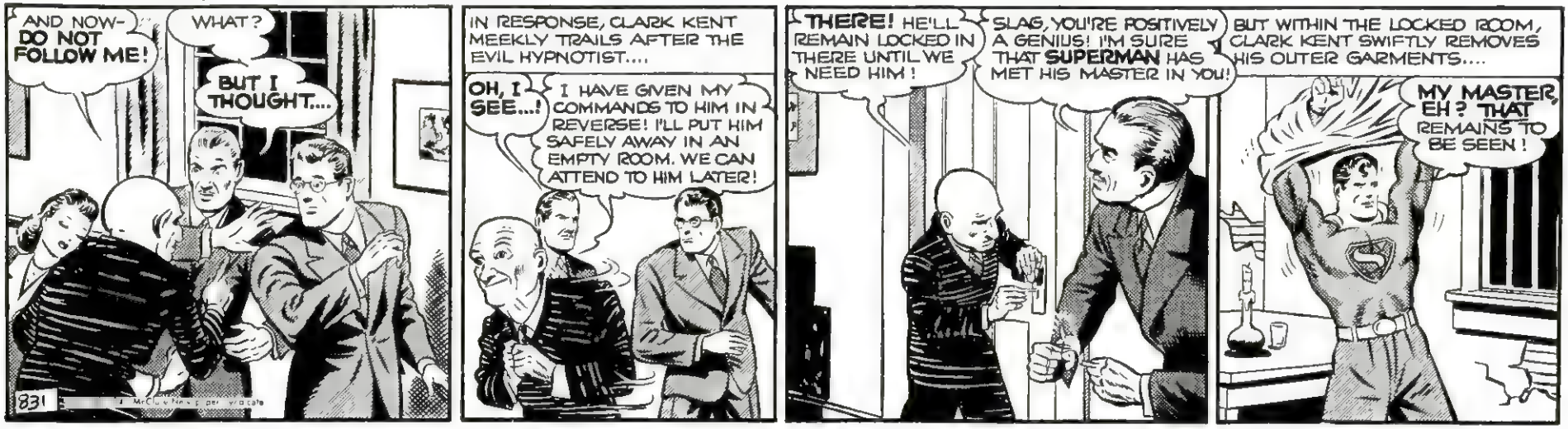
The Hypnotic Dwarf

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Free!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Enter Superman!



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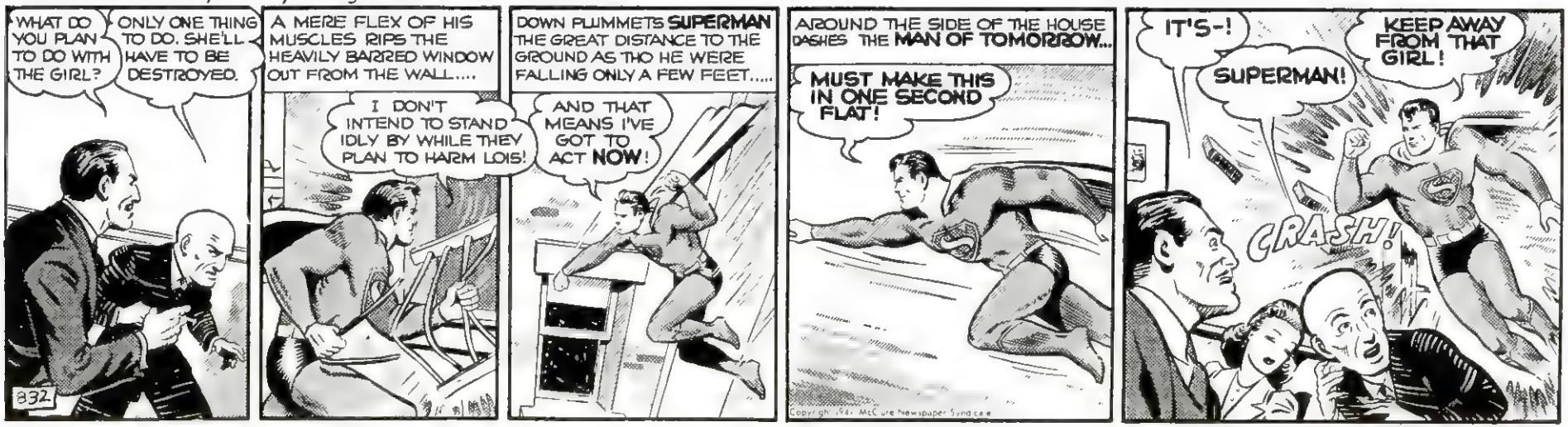
The Man of Steel Acts!



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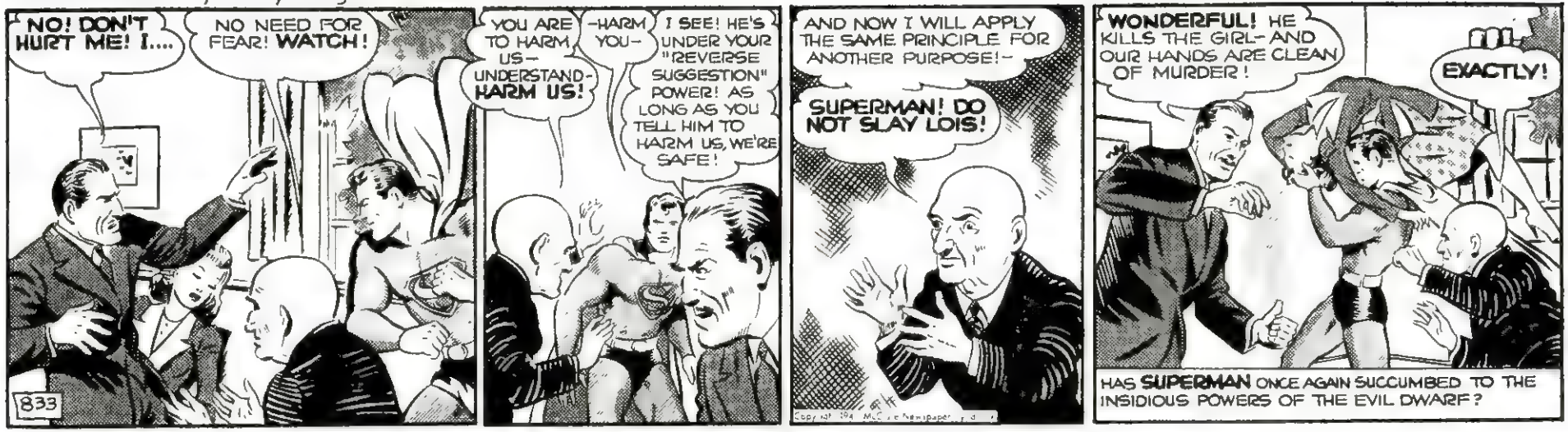
Don't Do It!



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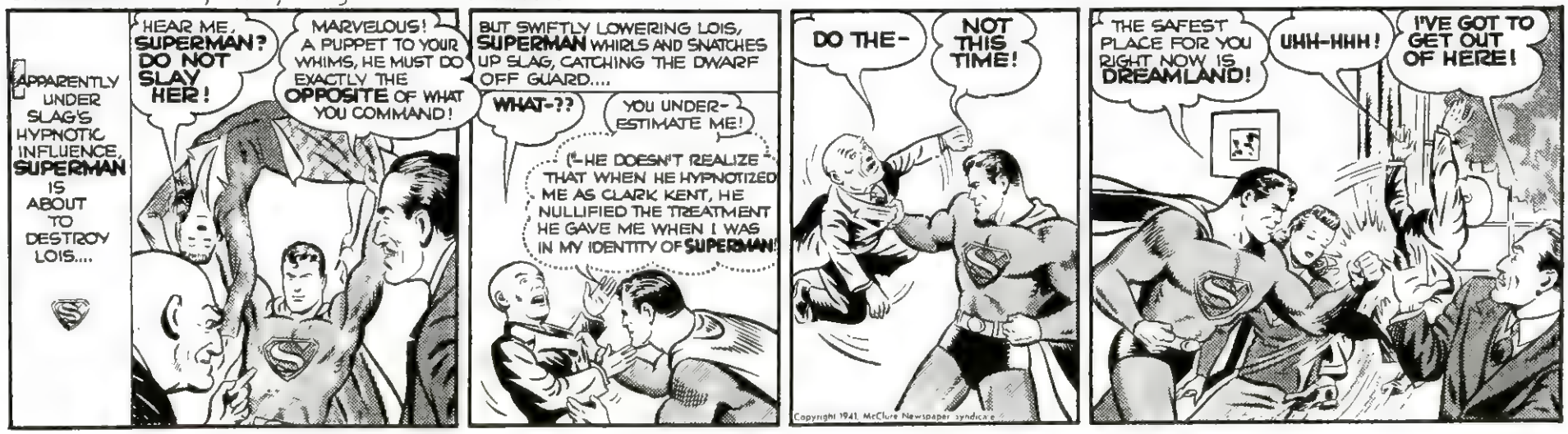
Revolt



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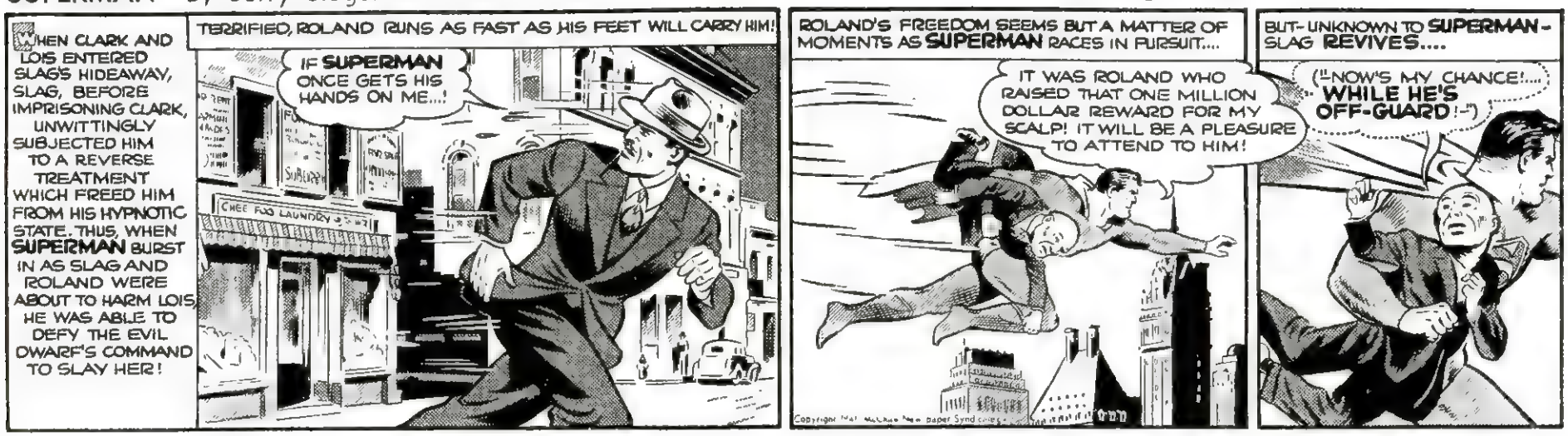
Slag Revives!



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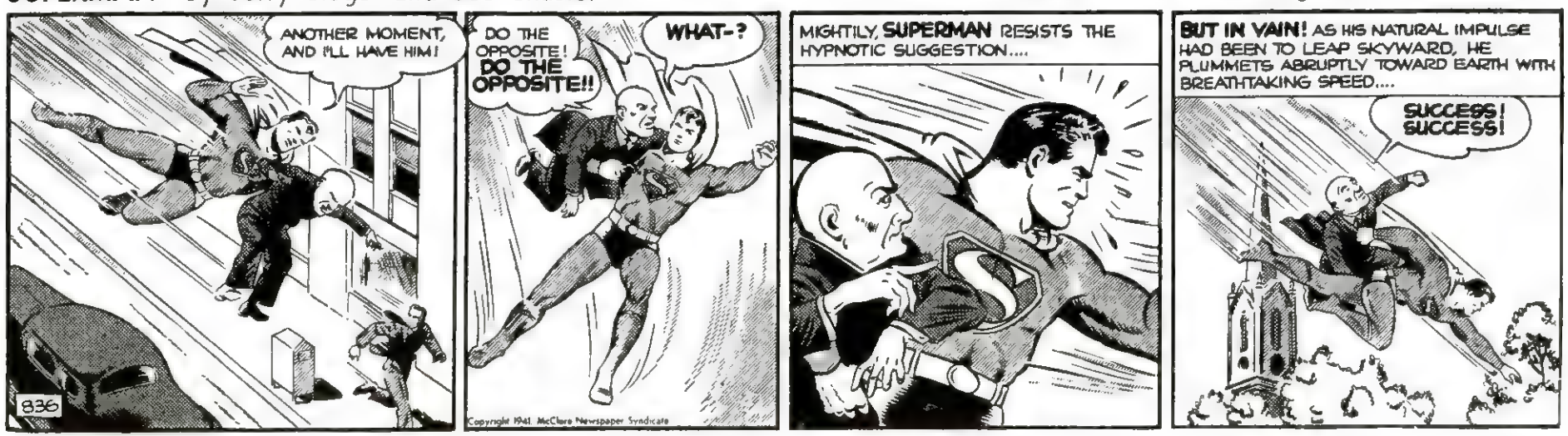
The Reverse-Treatment Again



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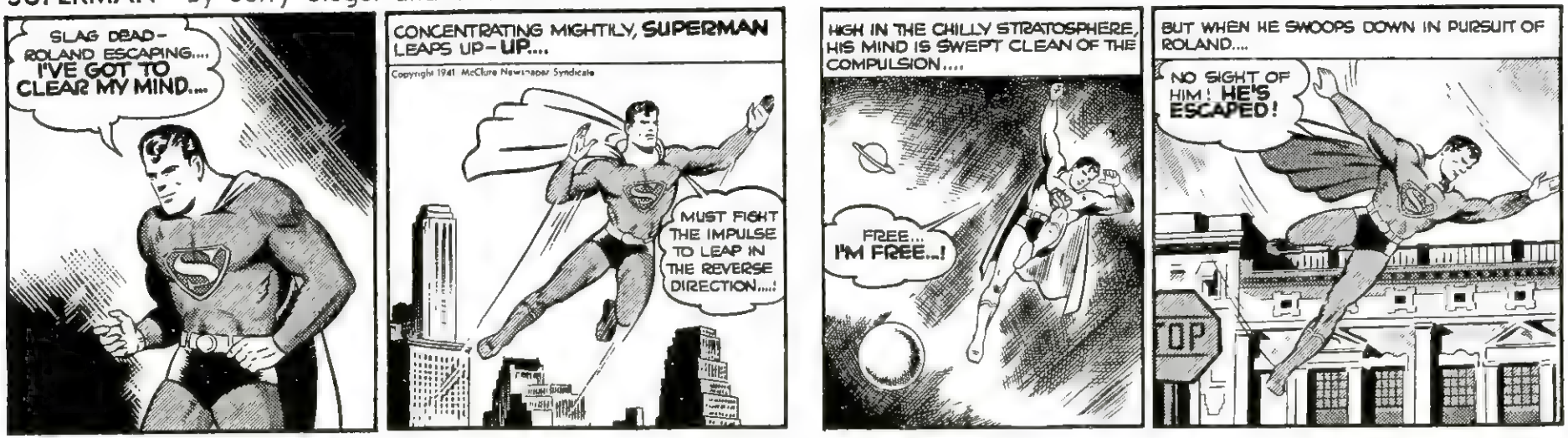
The Plan That Worked—Too

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Roland Clears Out!



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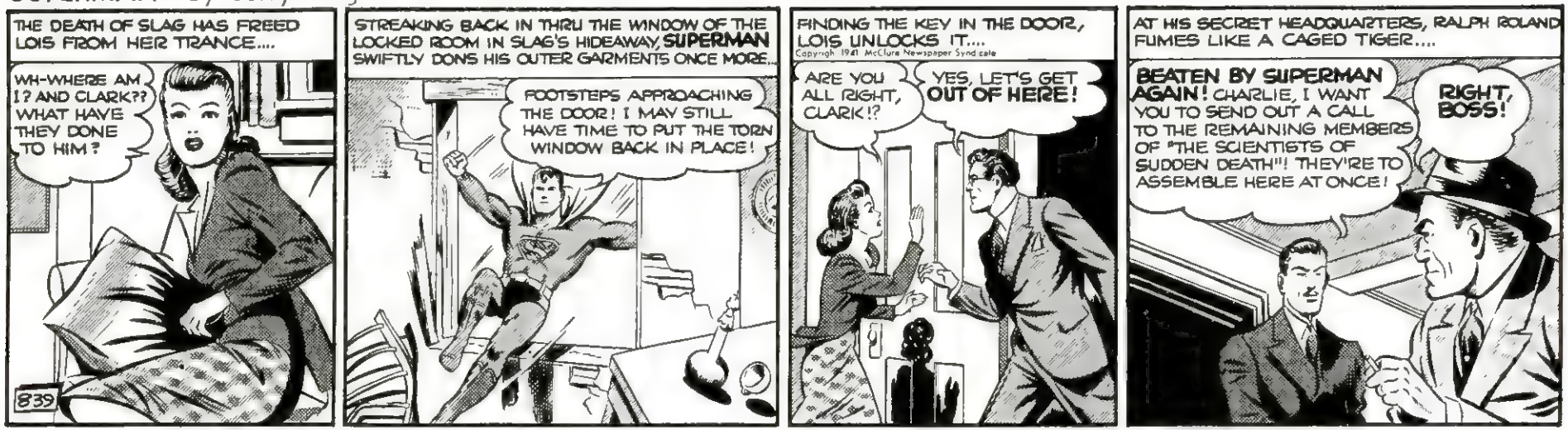
Reunion



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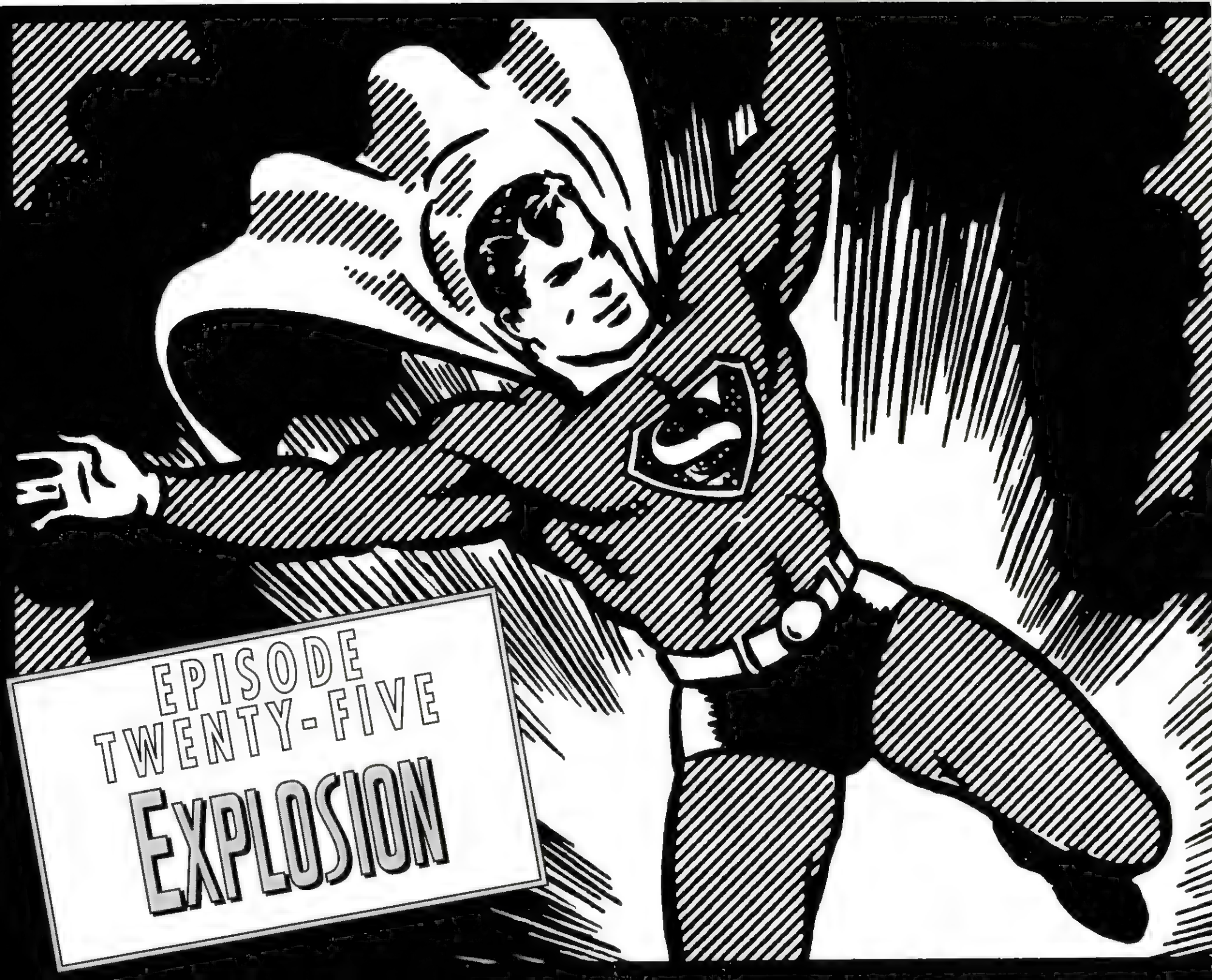
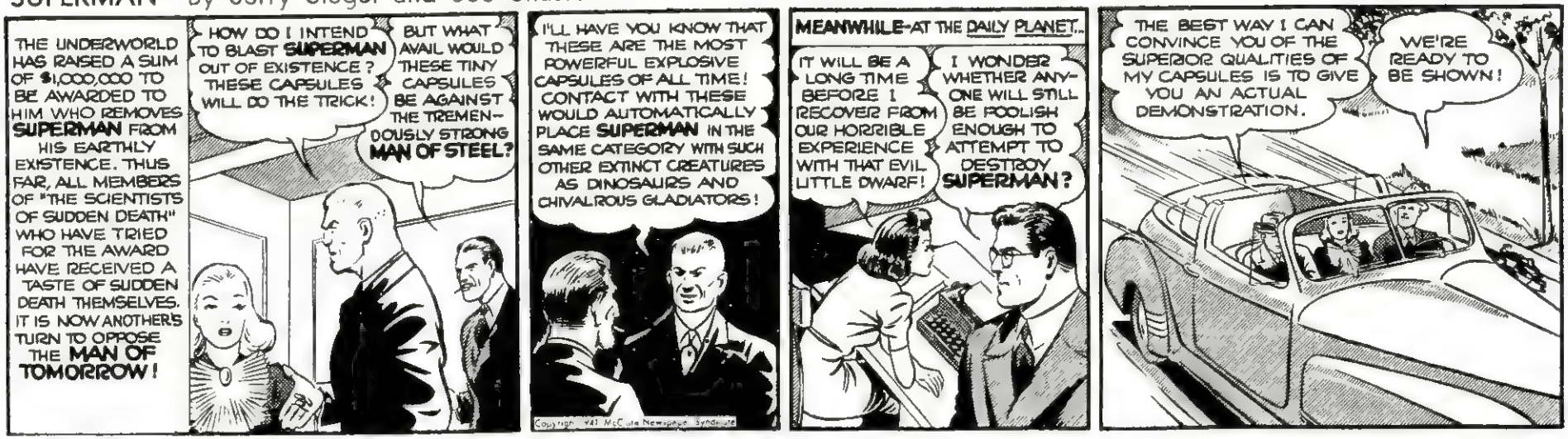
The Big Chance


EPISODE
TWENTY-FIVE
EXPLOSION

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Next!



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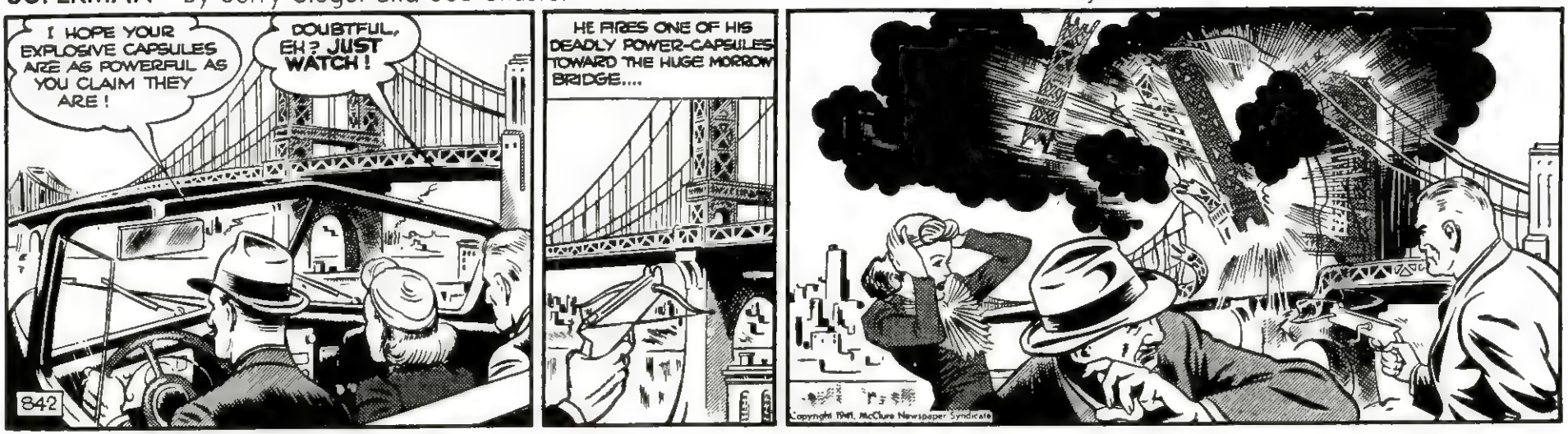
Proof!



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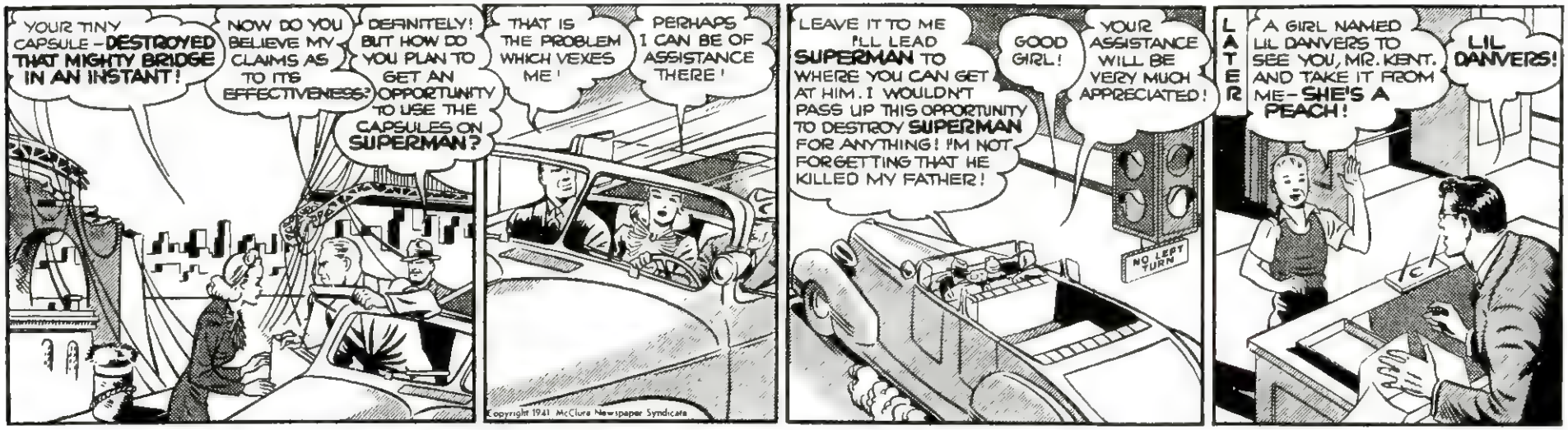
An Unexpected Caller



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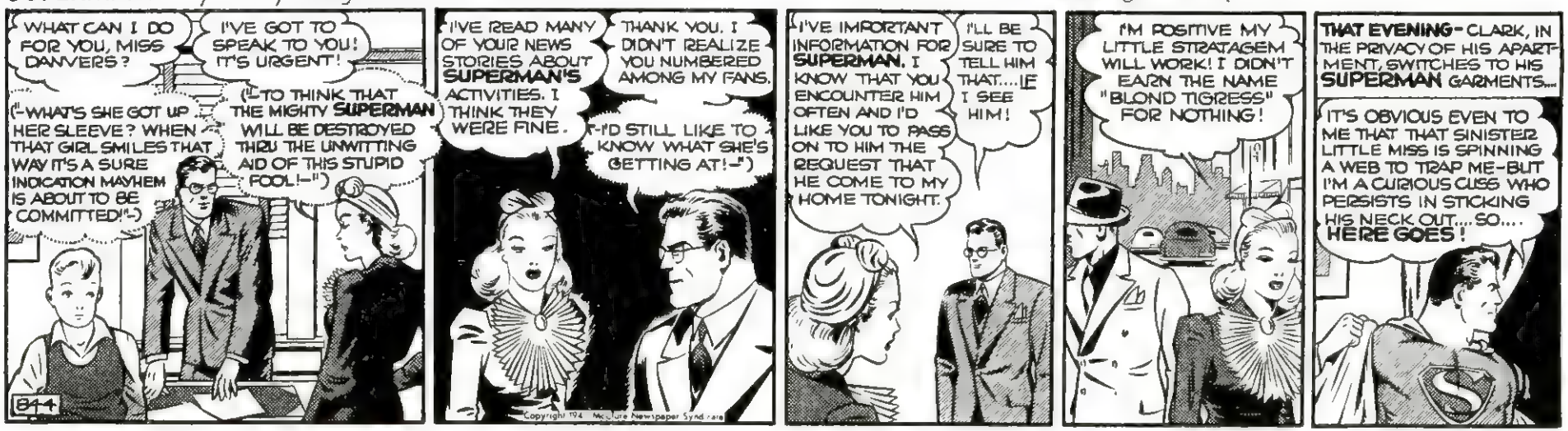
The Tigress Stalks!



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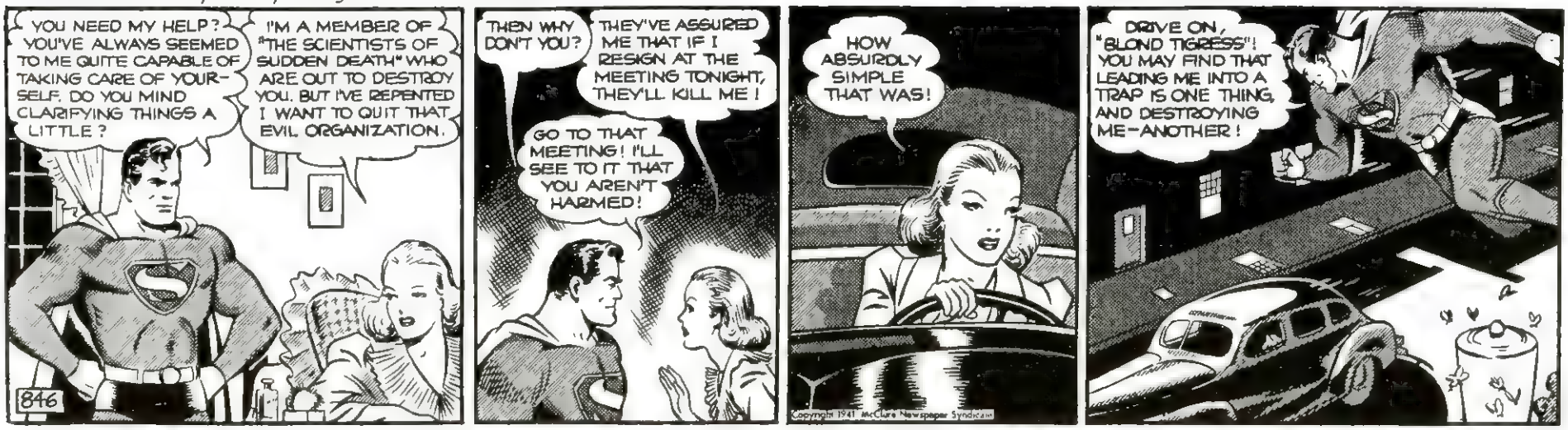
Superman May Need Help!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Tricking a Trickster



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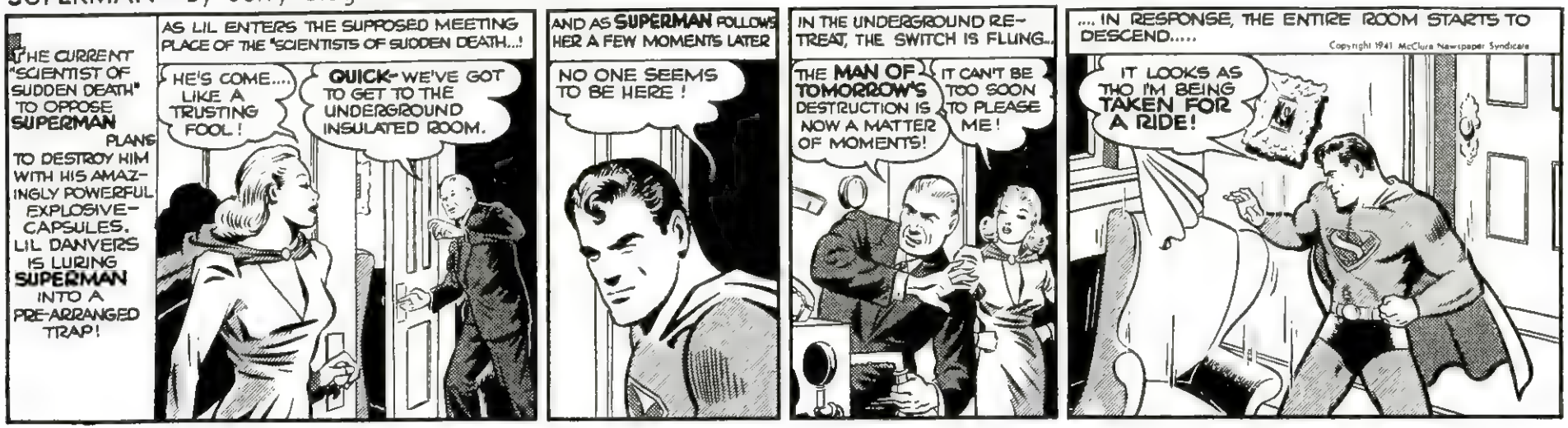
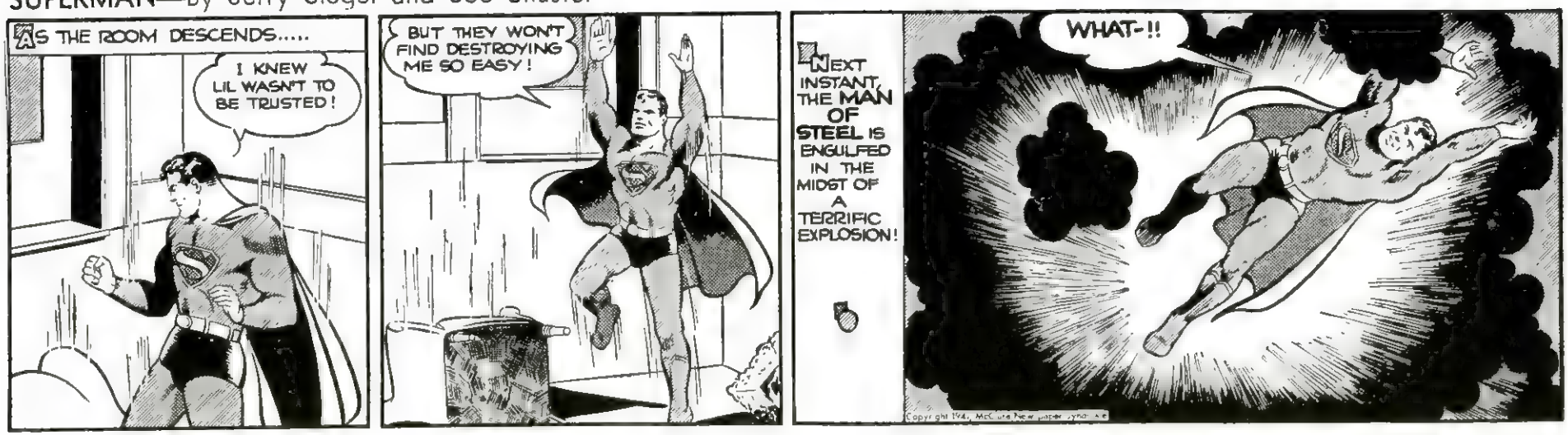
Floor, Please?



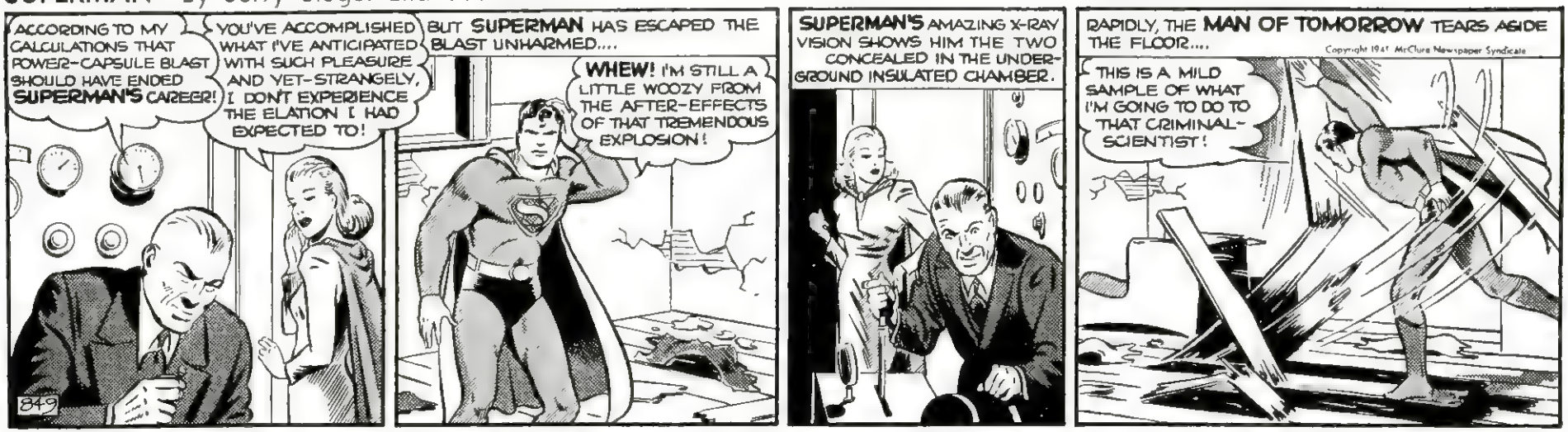
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Wham!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hard to Kill

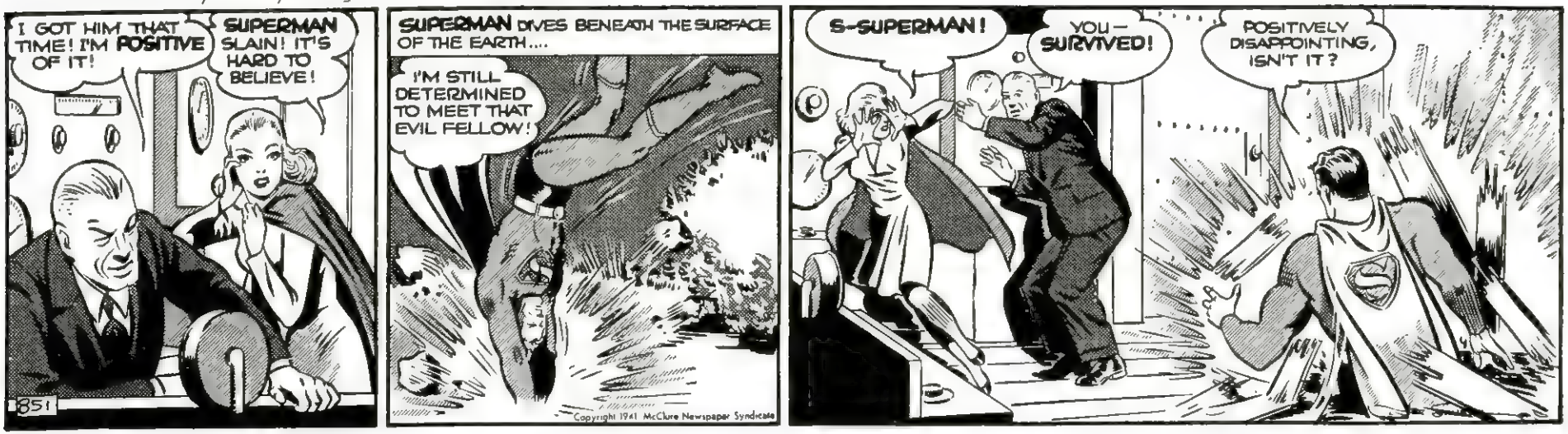


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Bounced!

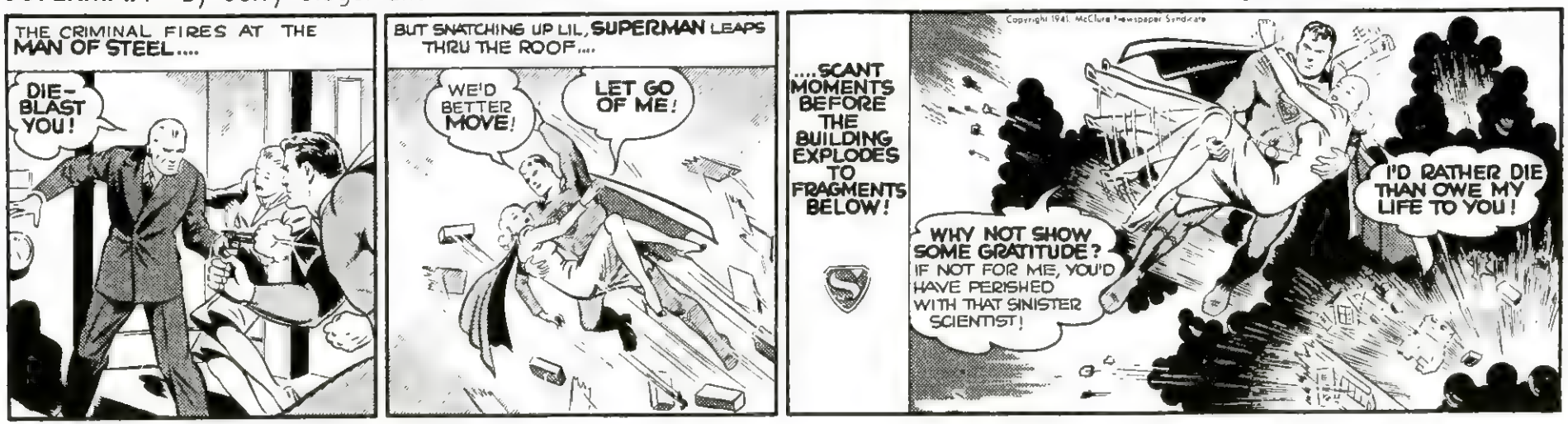
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Encore



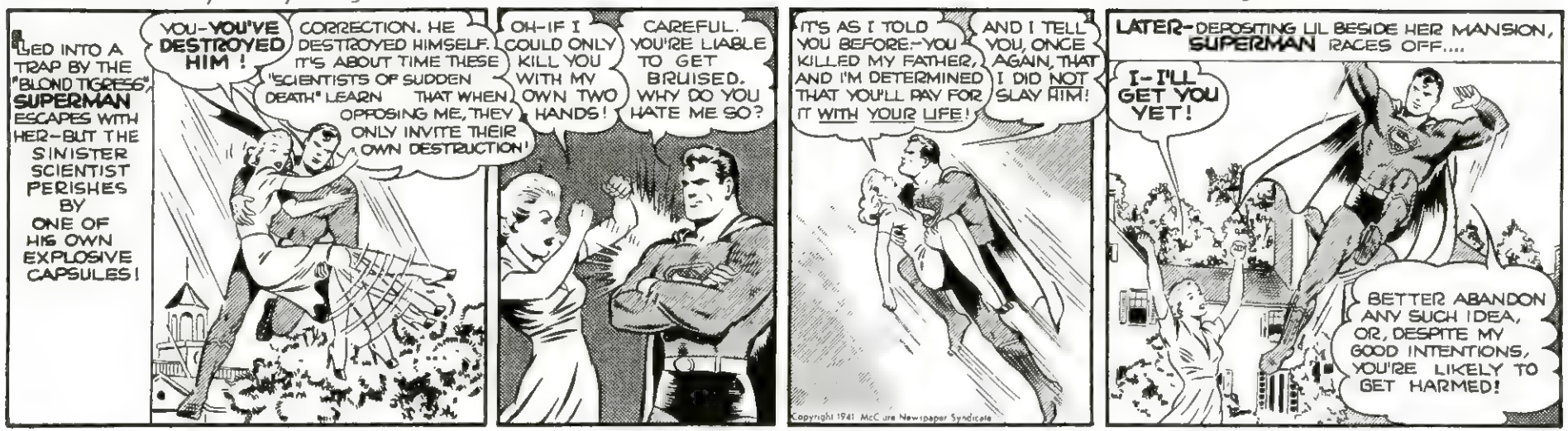
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Up-Up-and Away!



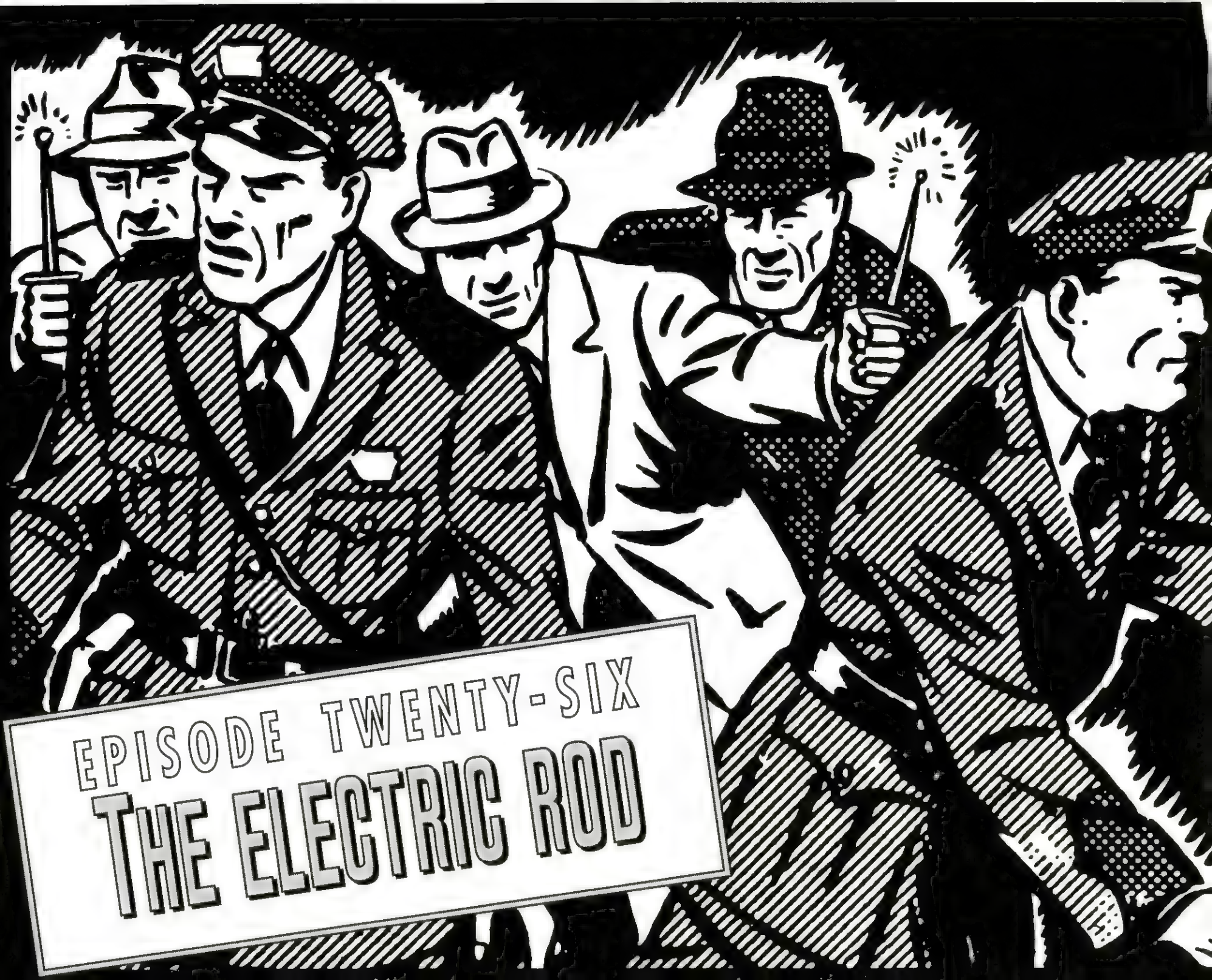
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Warning



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

One More Try

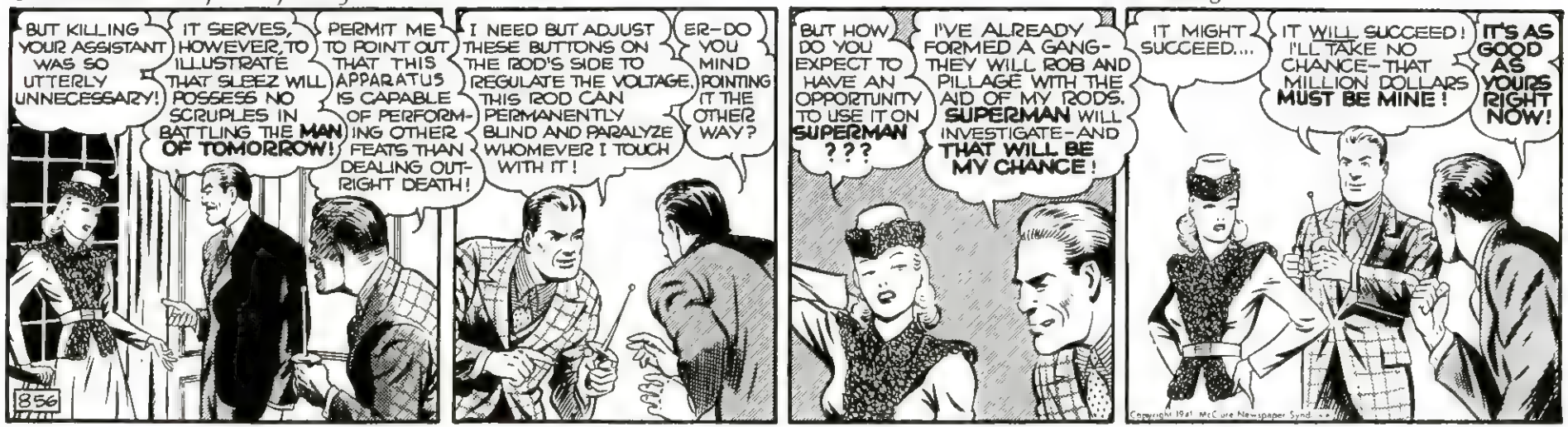

EPISODE TWENTY-SIX
THE ELECTRIC ROD

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Proof!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

In the Bag

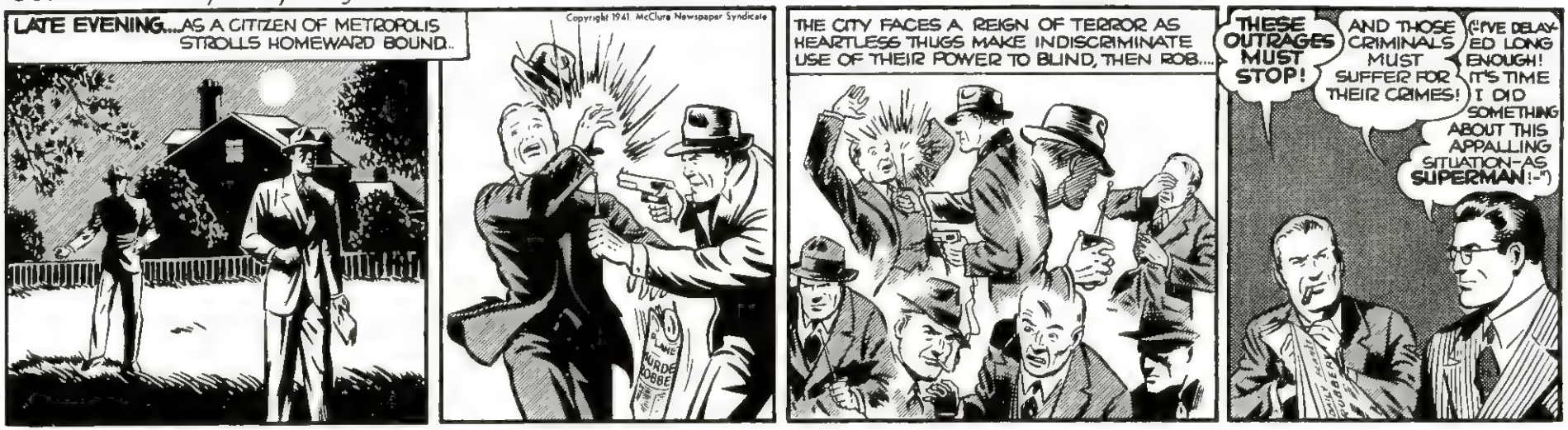


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Sleez Strikes!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Decision

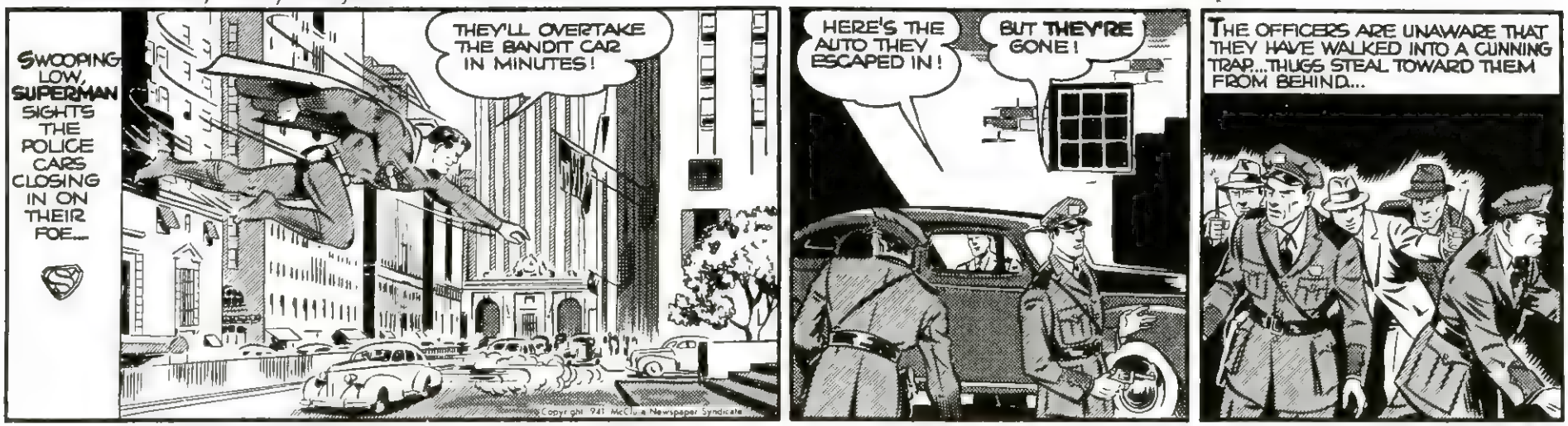


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Strange Sentinel

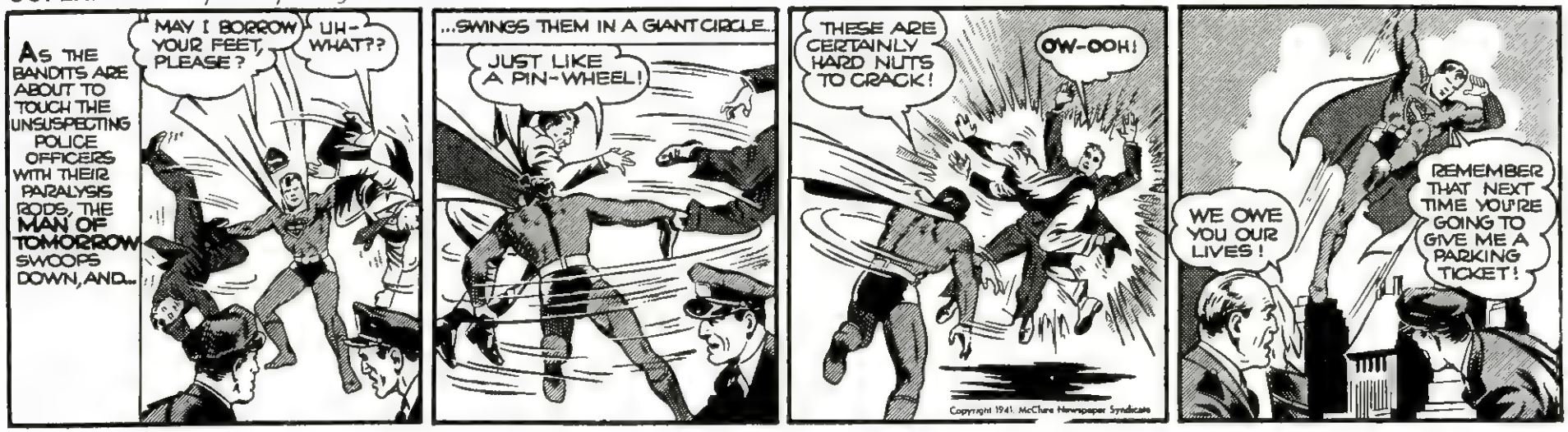
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Into a Trap!



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Service With A Smile

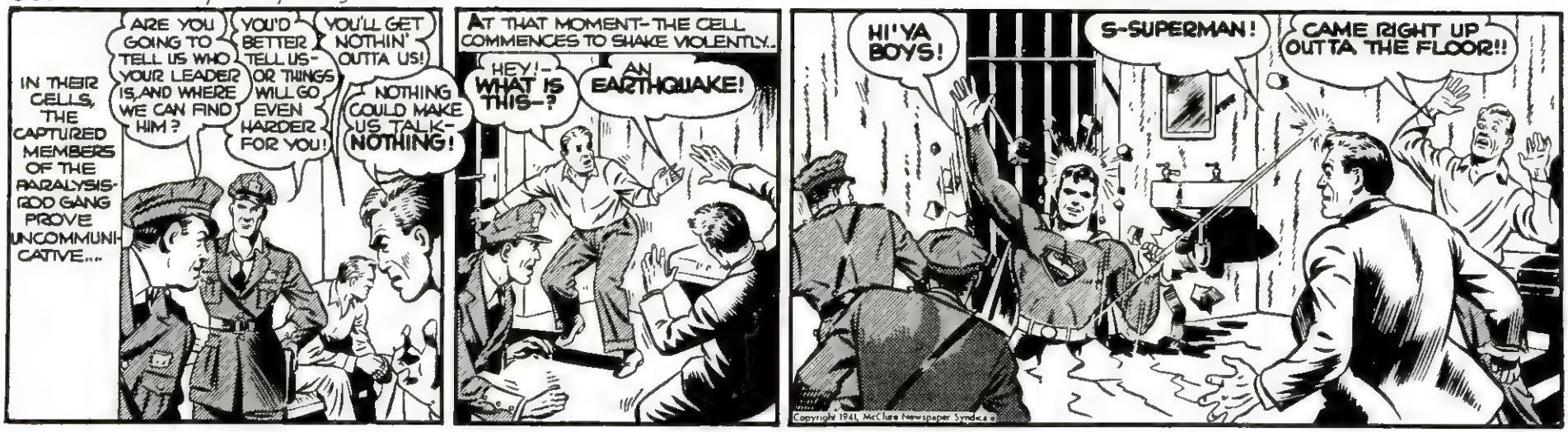


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Reconnoitering

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Unannounced Entrance

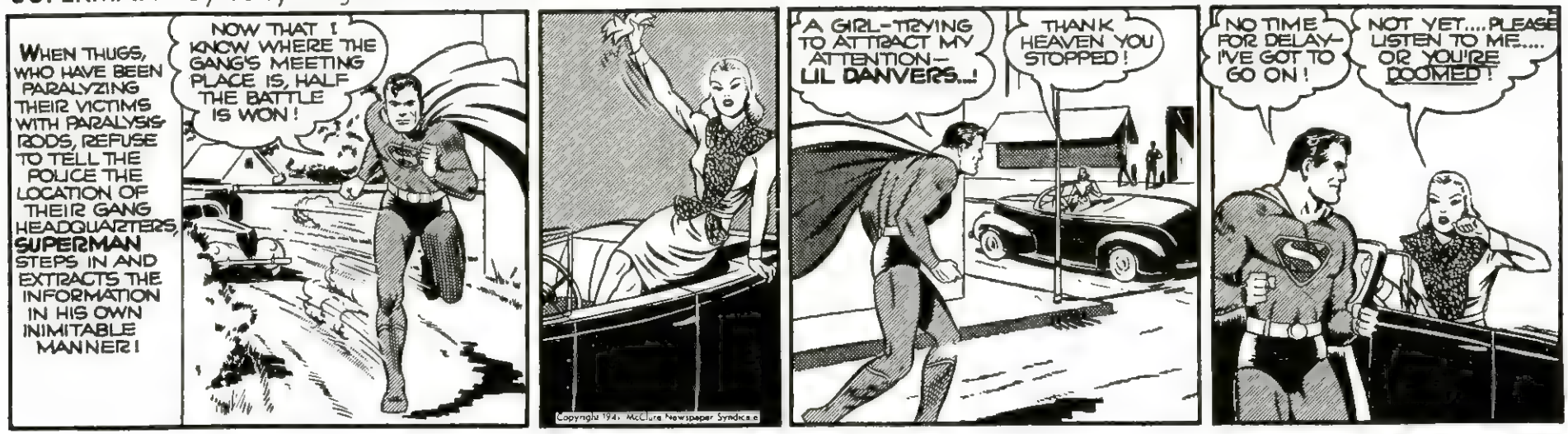


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

'Round and 'Round They Go

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Time Out!

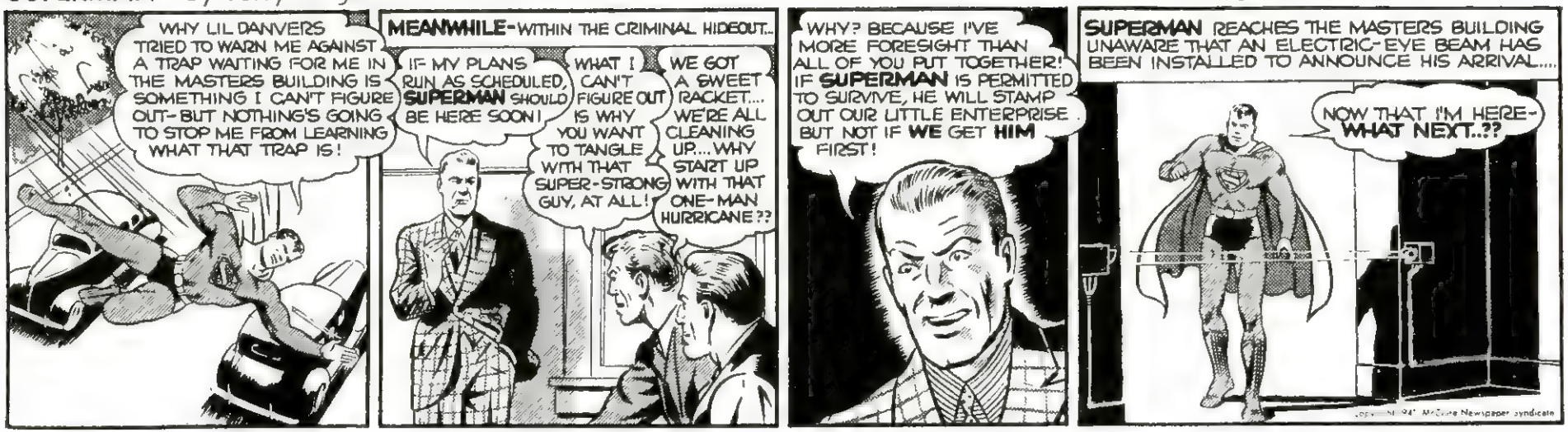


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Tough on Lil

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Next on the Program



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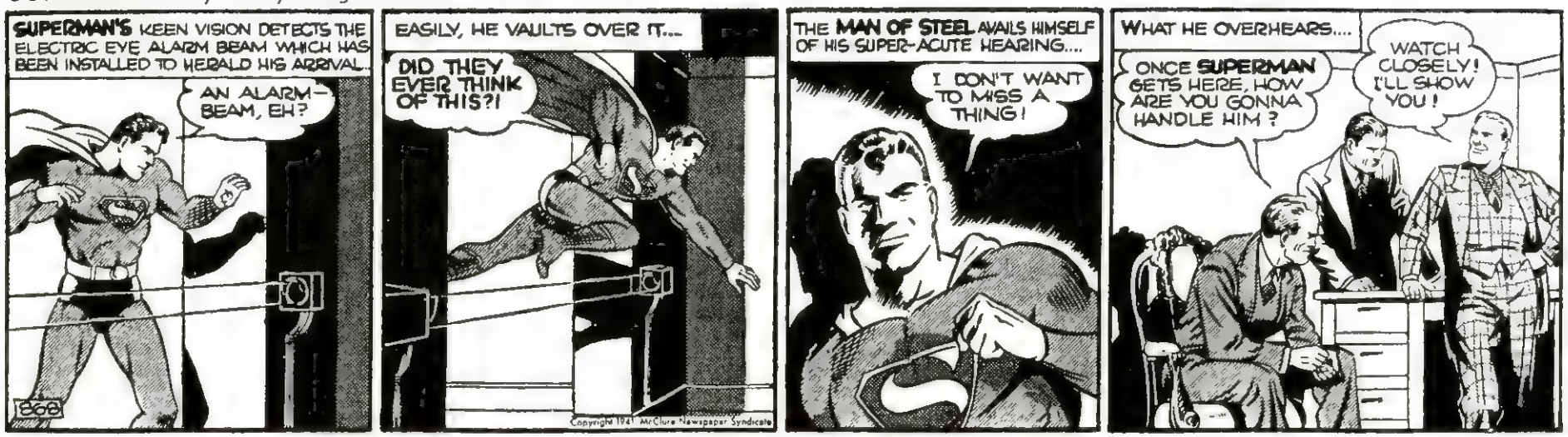
The Evesdropper



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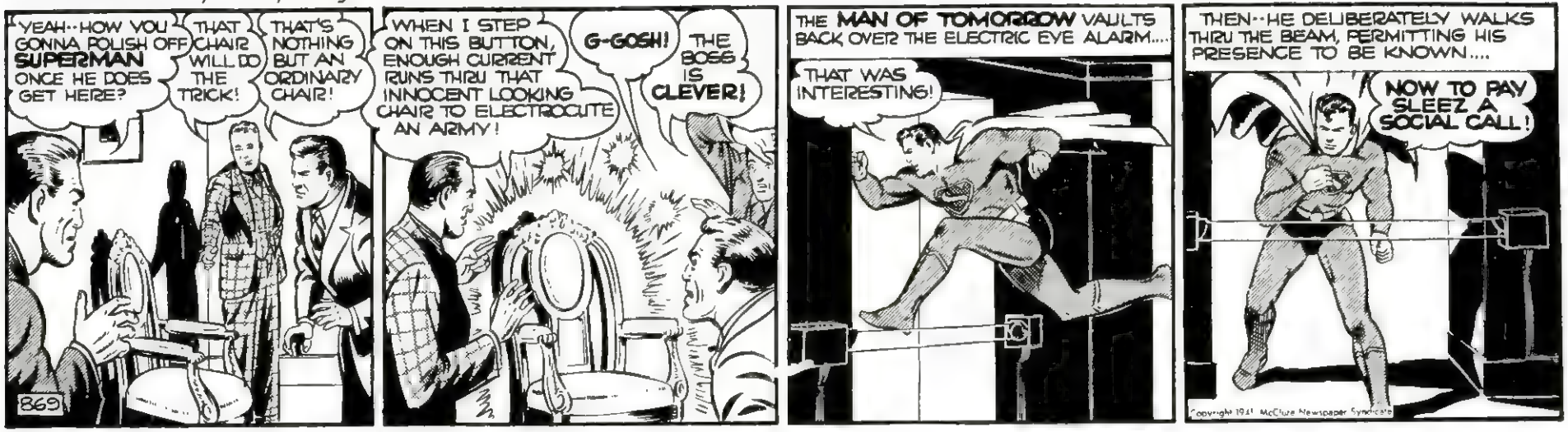
Forewarned



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

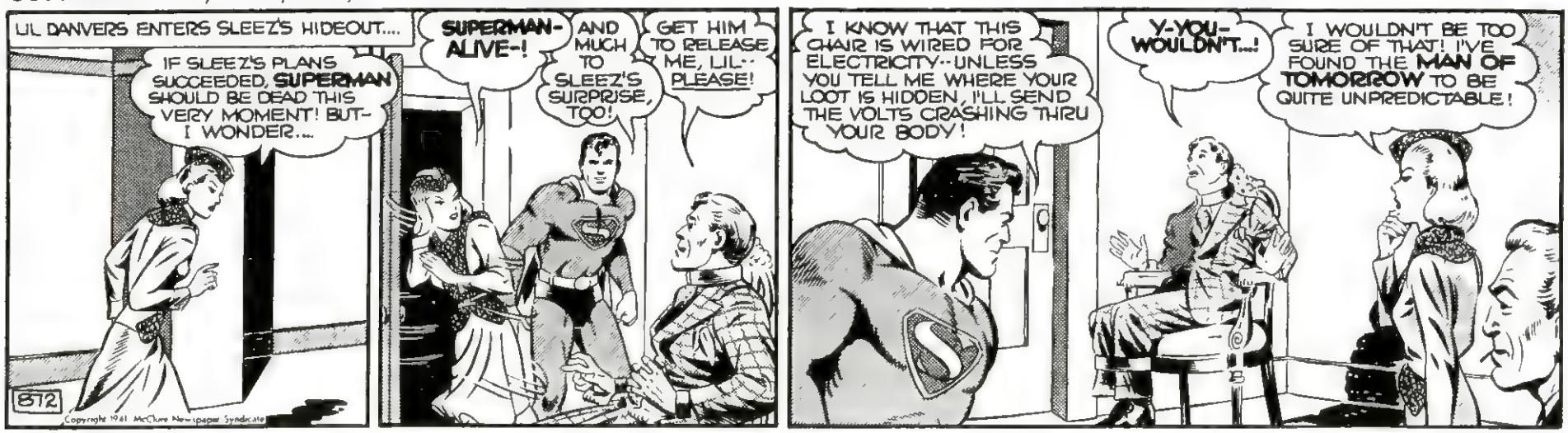
Who's Foolin' Who?

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

You First

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lil Should Know

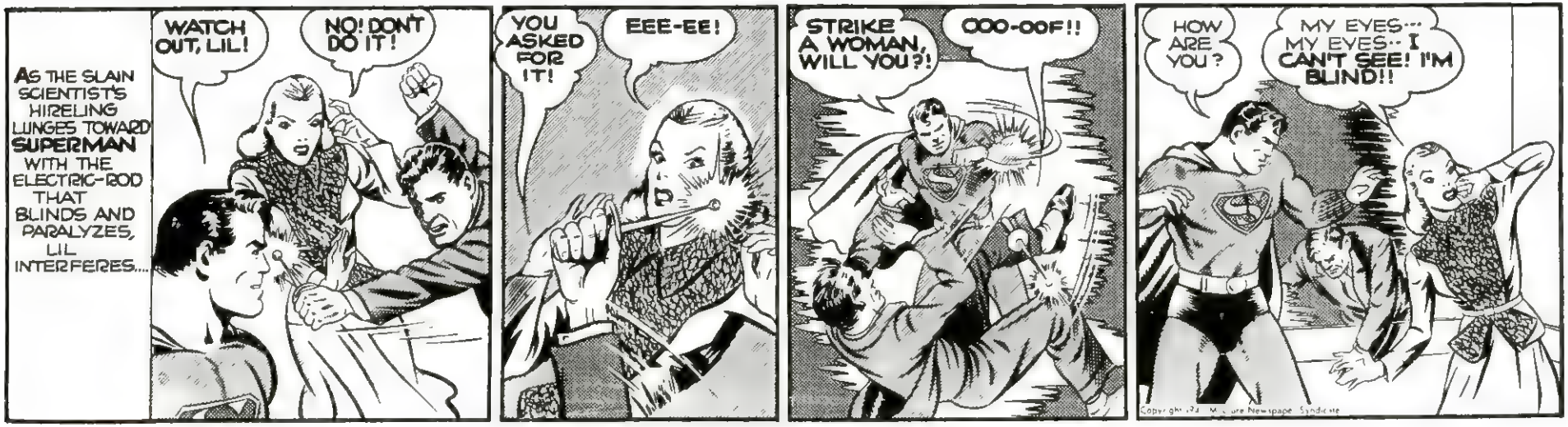


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hot Seat

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Blinded!



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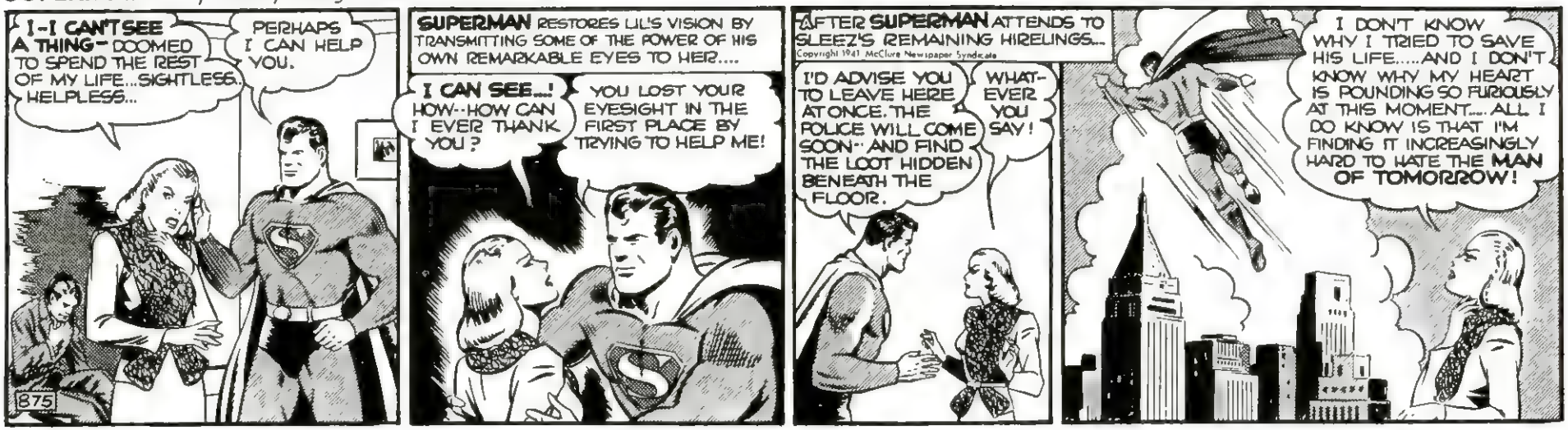
Modern Miracle



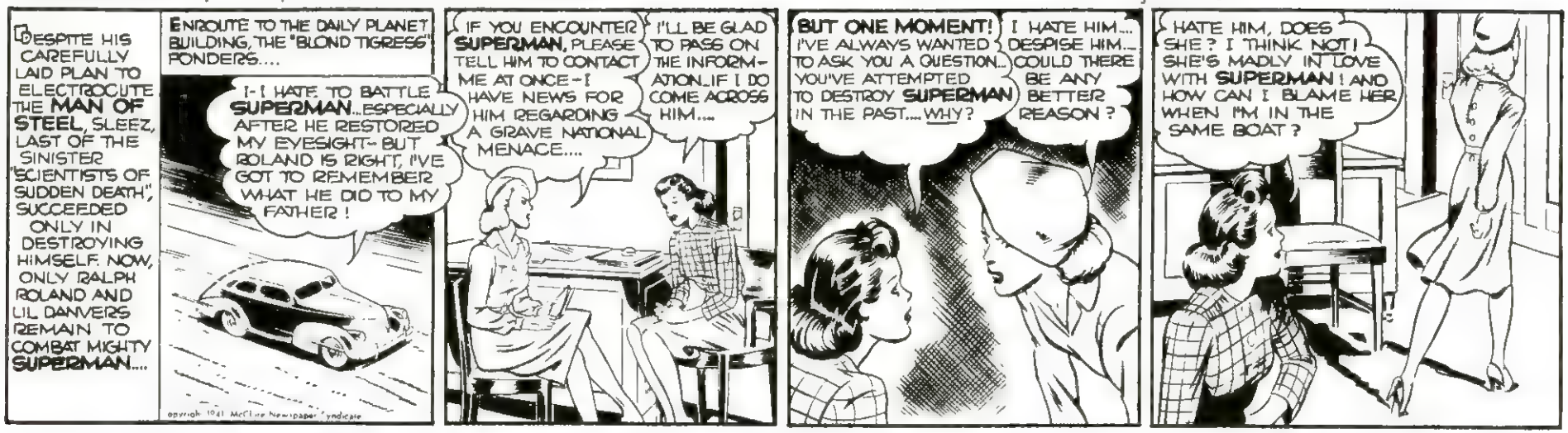
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Crime Lurches On.

EPISODE TWENTY-SEVEN
THE BLONDE TIGRESS REGRETS

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Two of a Kind

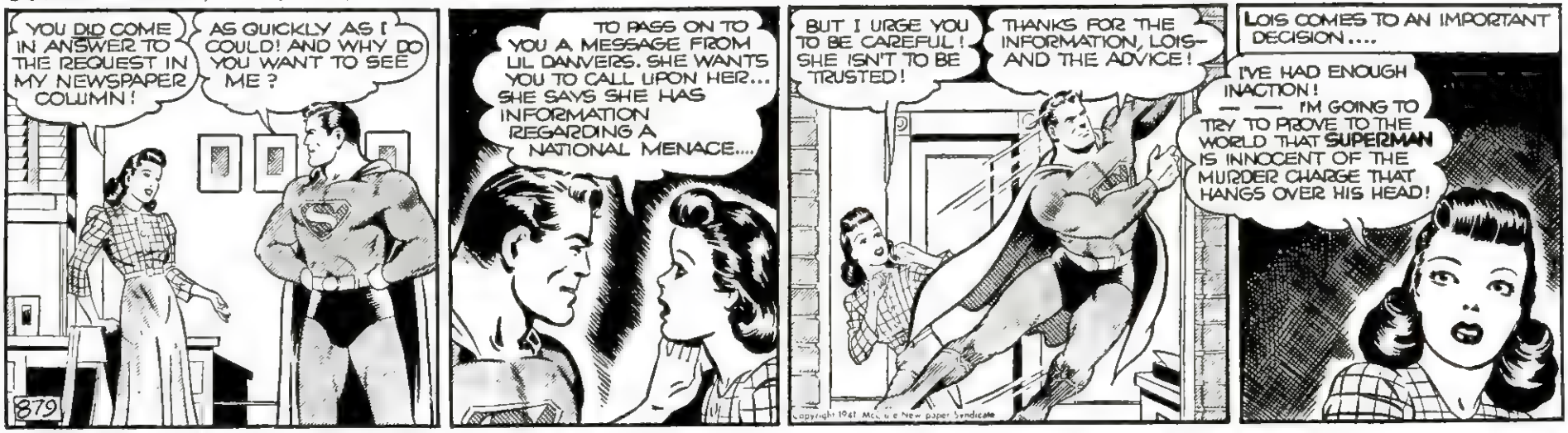


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Prompt!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Decision



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Think Fast, Charlie!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

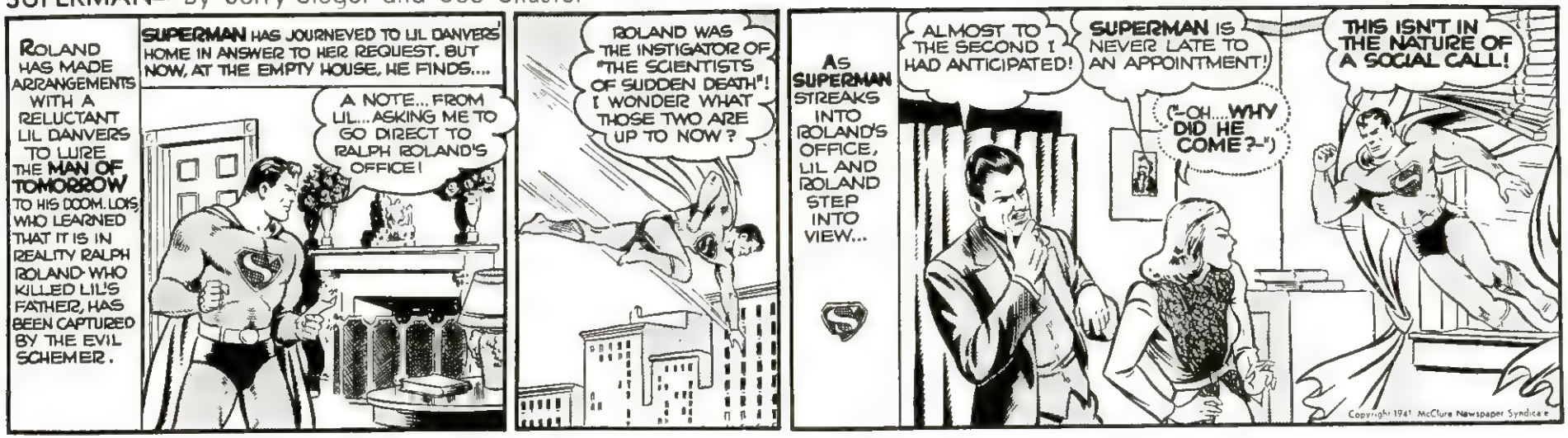
Charlie Squeals

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Squealer's Fate.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

It's Rude To Be Late.



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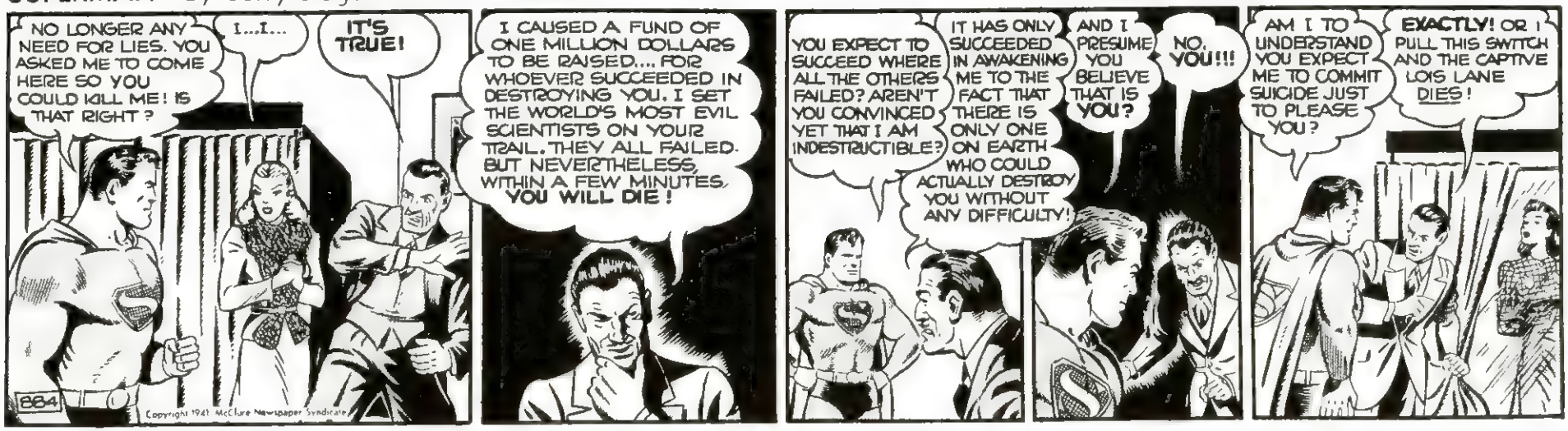
Unpleasant Prospects.

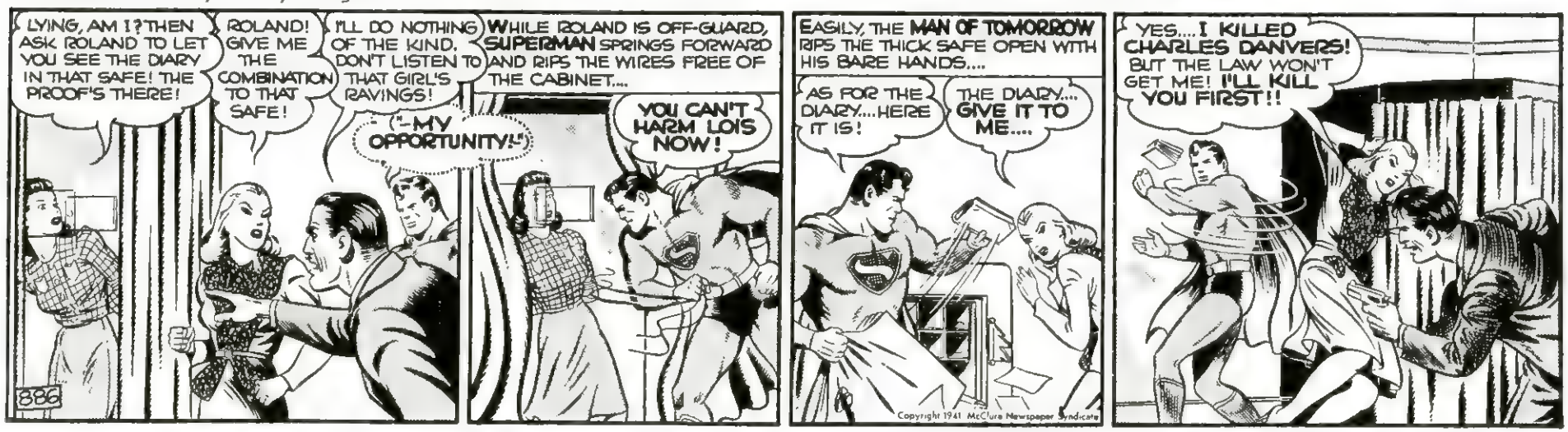


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Lois Spills The Beans.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Killer Unmasked

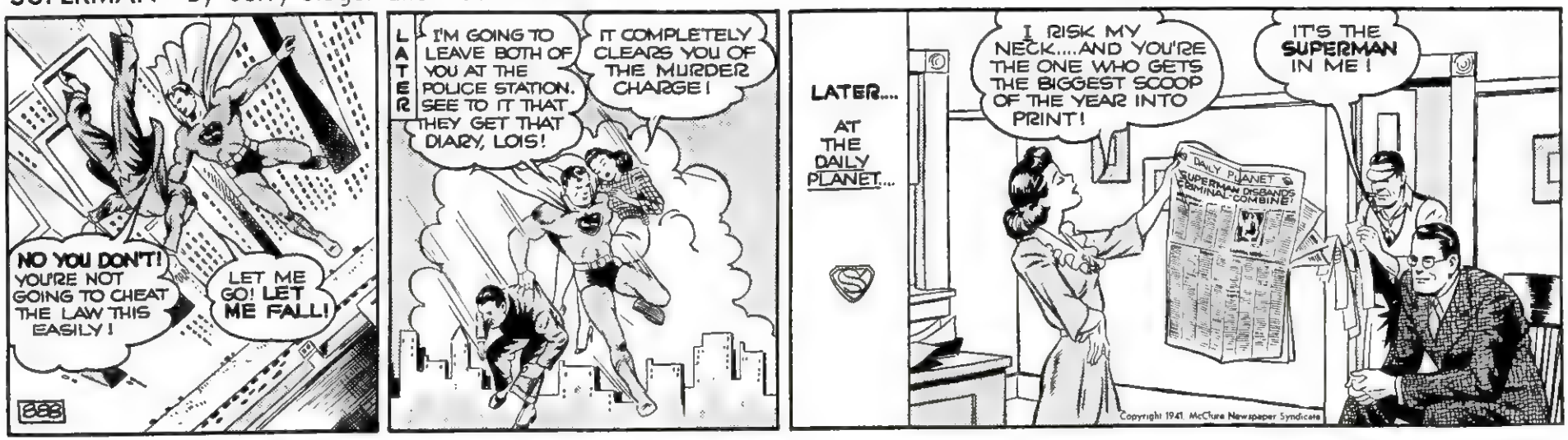


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Dying Request

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Finis!



EPISODE
TWENTY-EIGHT
SUPERMAN'S
HOLLYWOOD
DEBUT

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

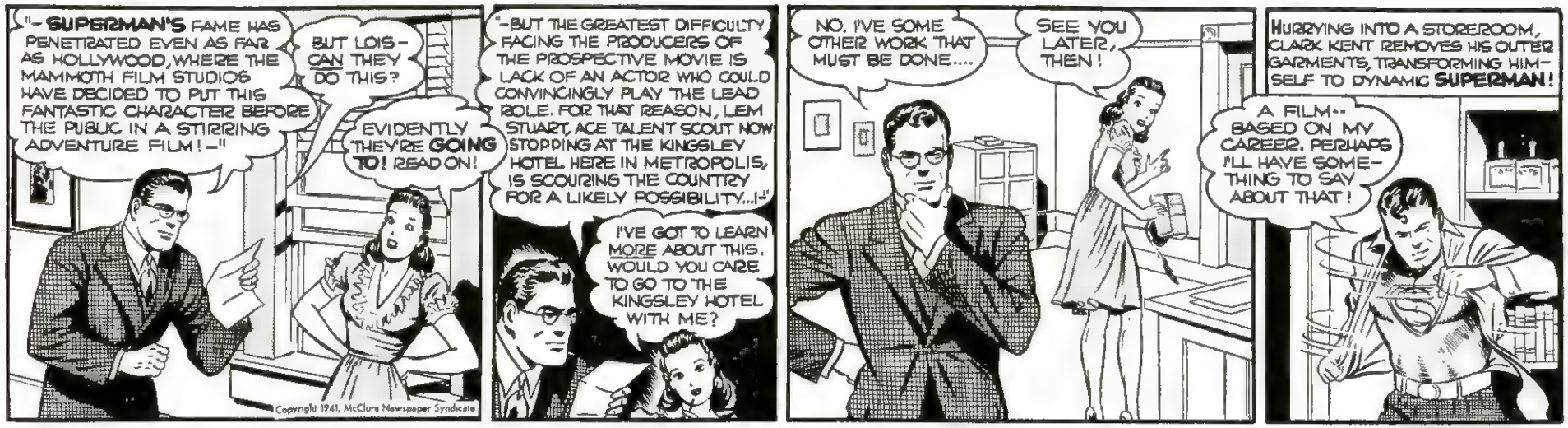
Quiz Kid

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Hair-Raiser From Hollywood

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

The Reluctant Hero



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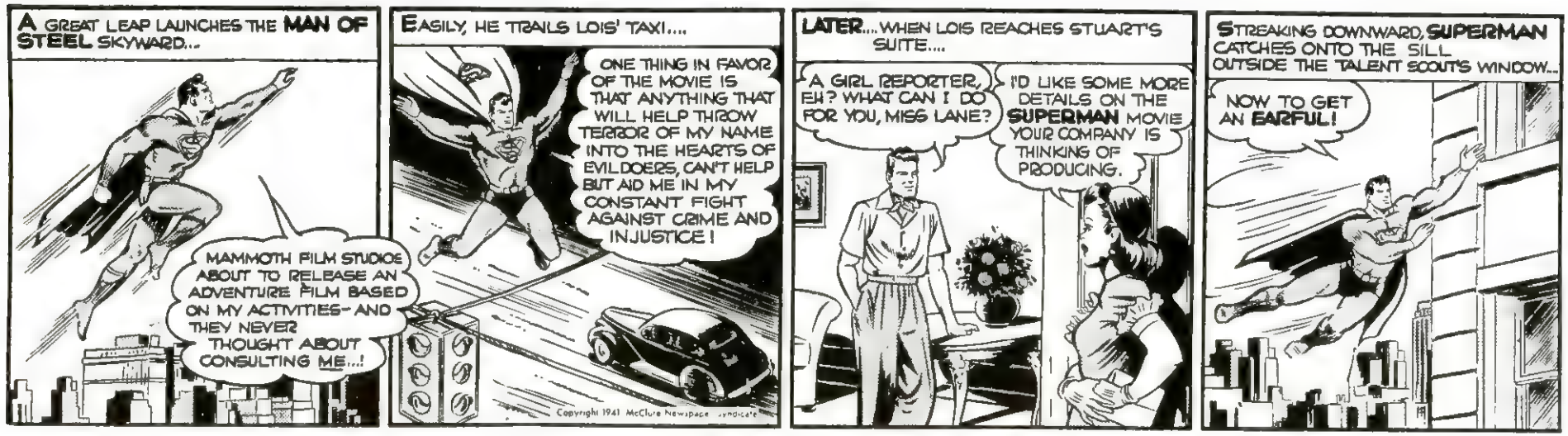
Visitors



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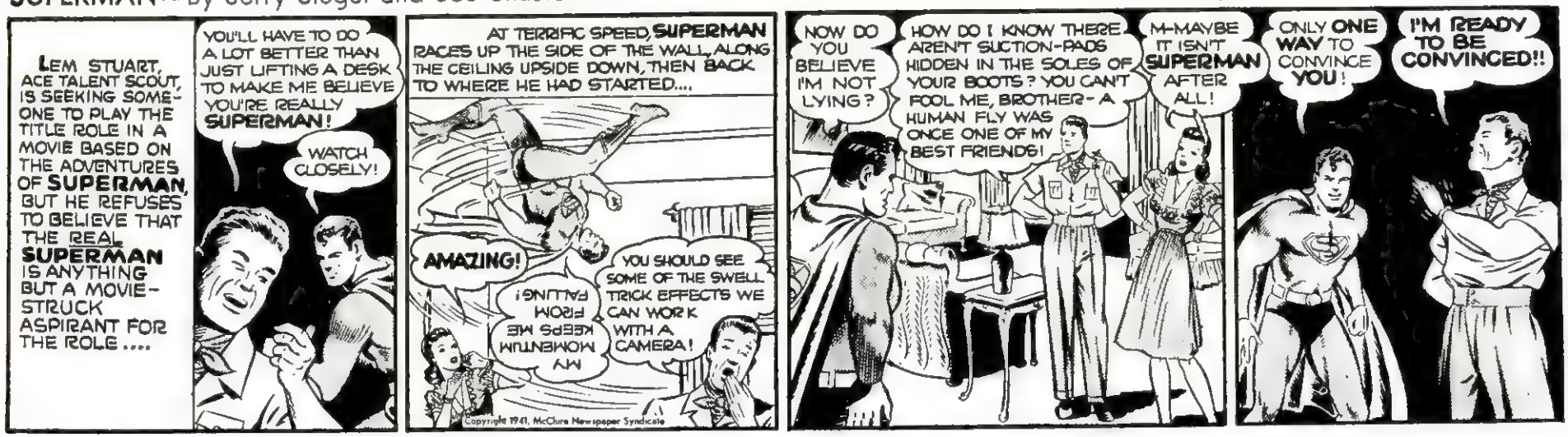
In Person!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Not Easily Convinced

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Nothing Like an Open Mind



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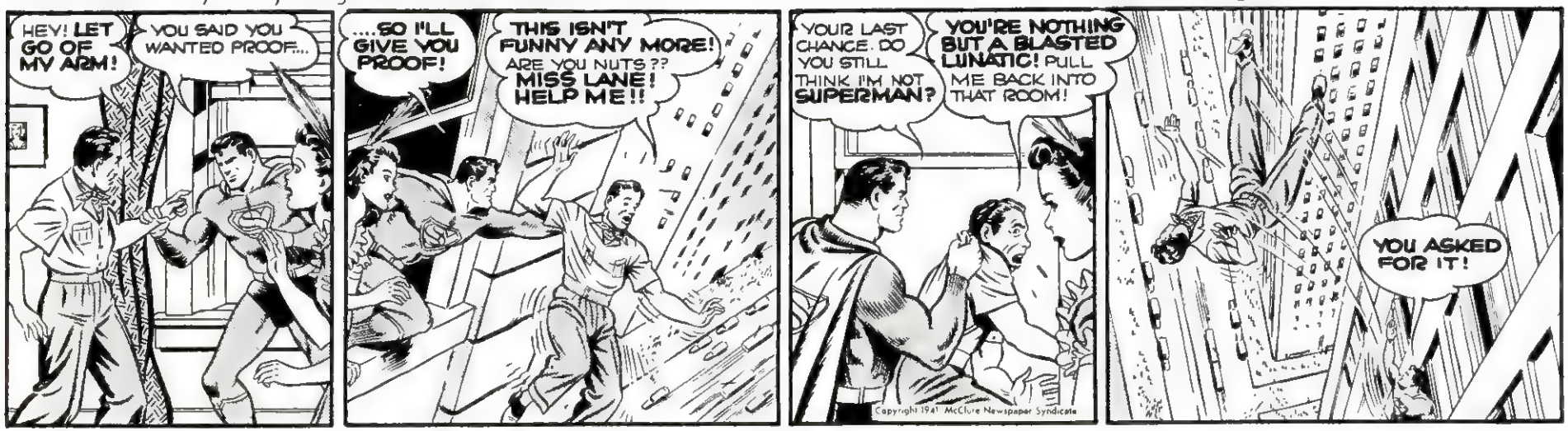
Superman Obliges



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Round Trip

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Pretty Nose for News

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

A Look-See for Safety

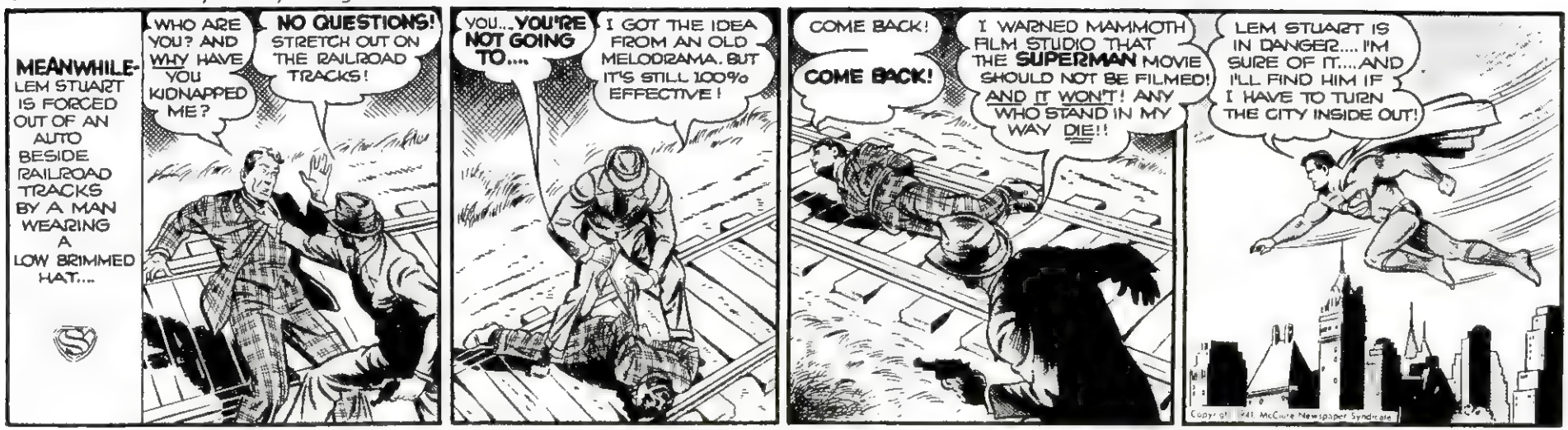
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Doublechecking

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Tied on the Ties



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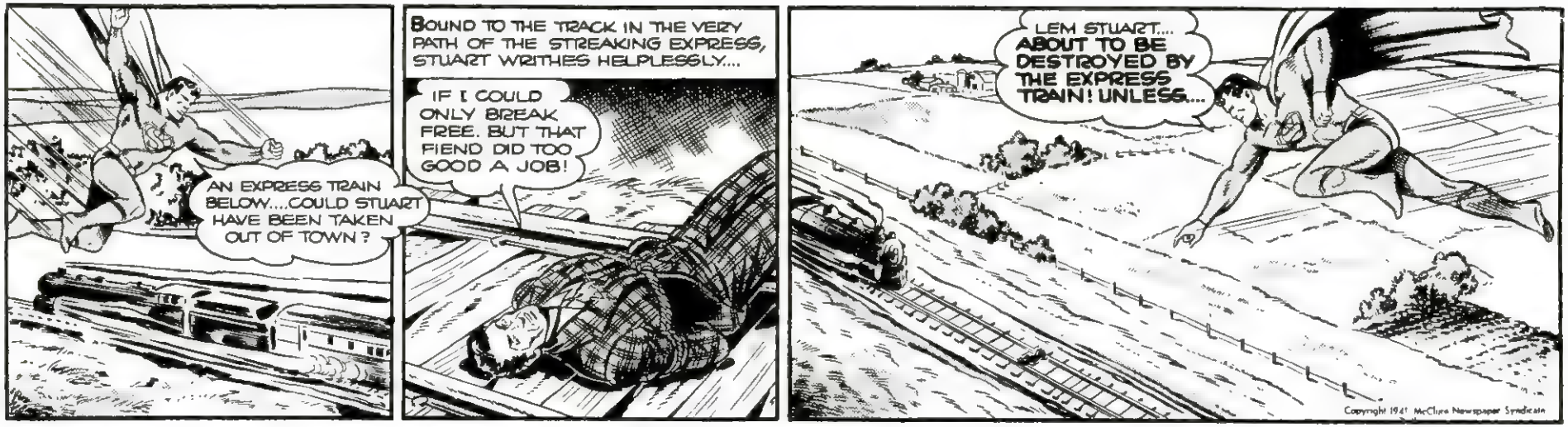
Hurry, Hurry, Hurry



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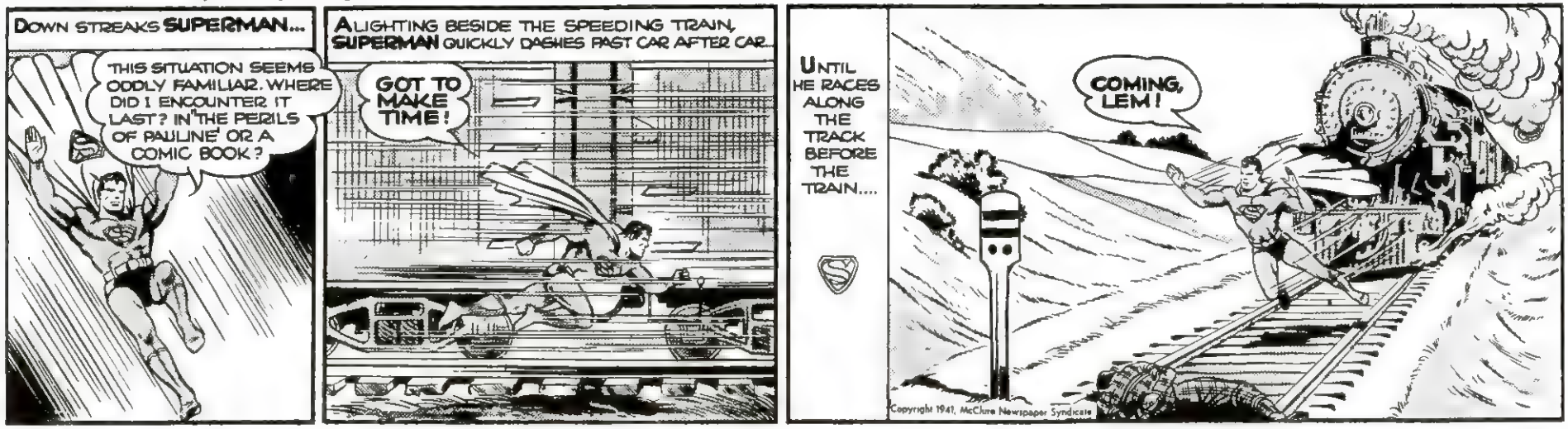
Tough Competition



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

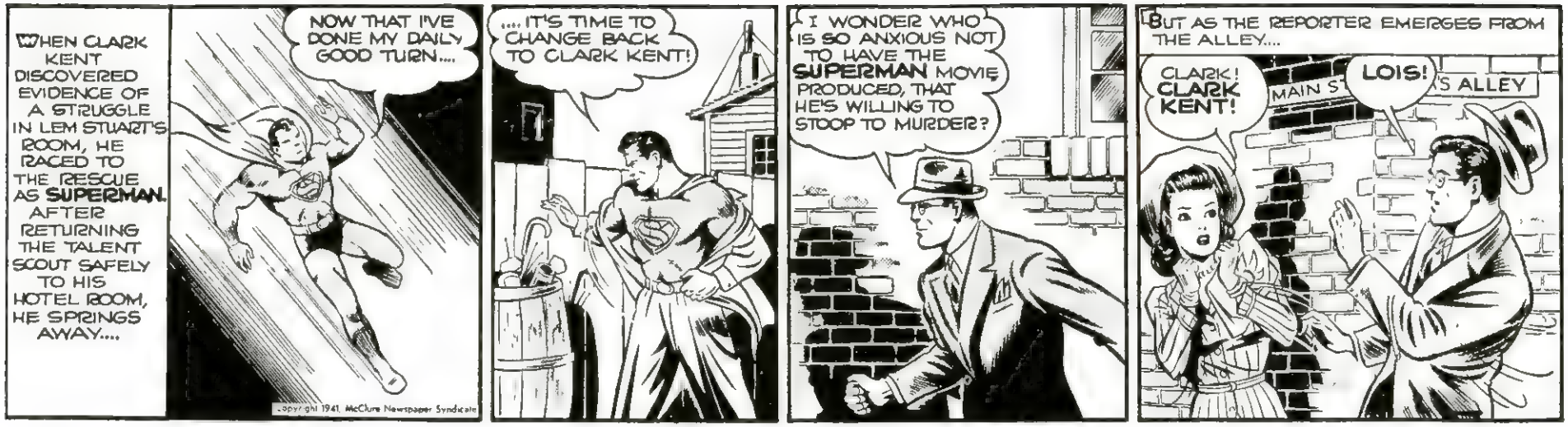
Move Over Please

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Cautionary Counsel

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Surprised Parties



SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Persuasive Patter

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Eye-See

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

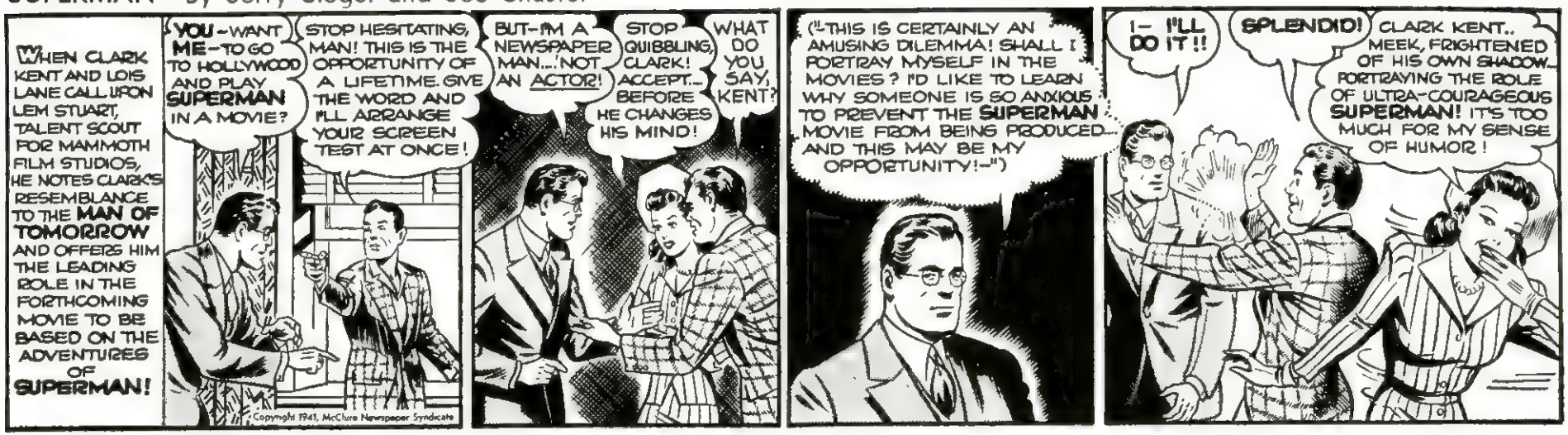
Unwilling Victim

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Ironic



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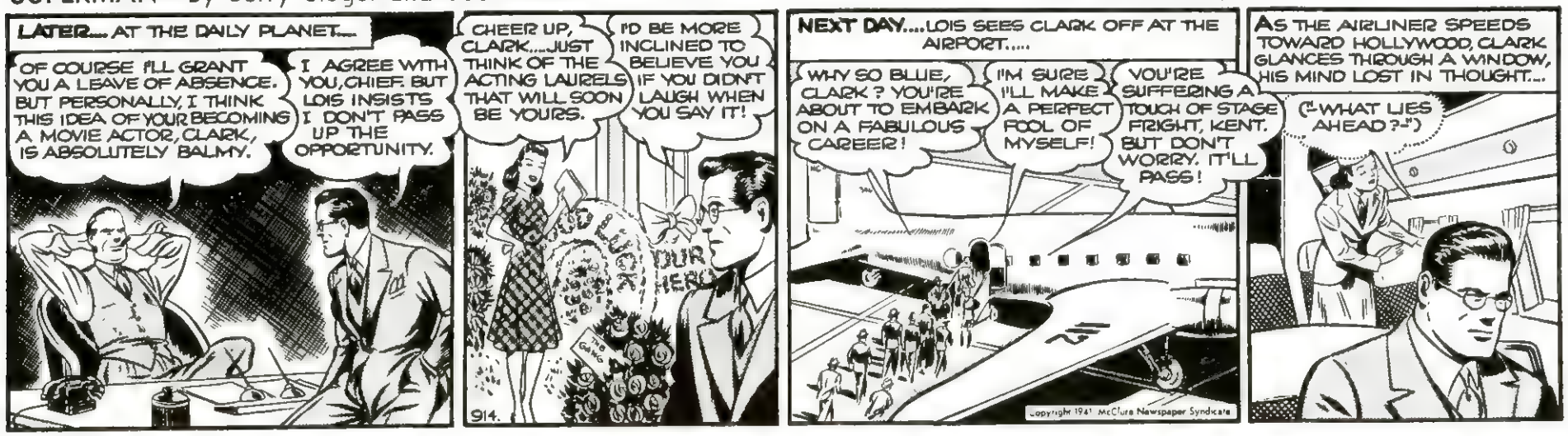
Next Stop Hollywood



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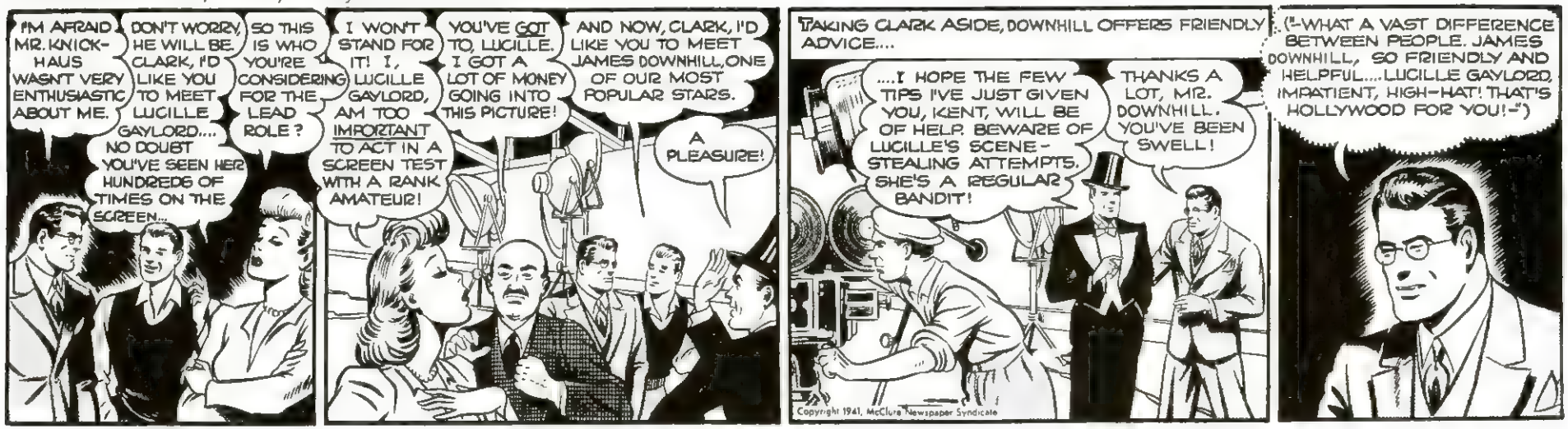
Deadline

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Bad Impression

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

It Takes All Kinds.



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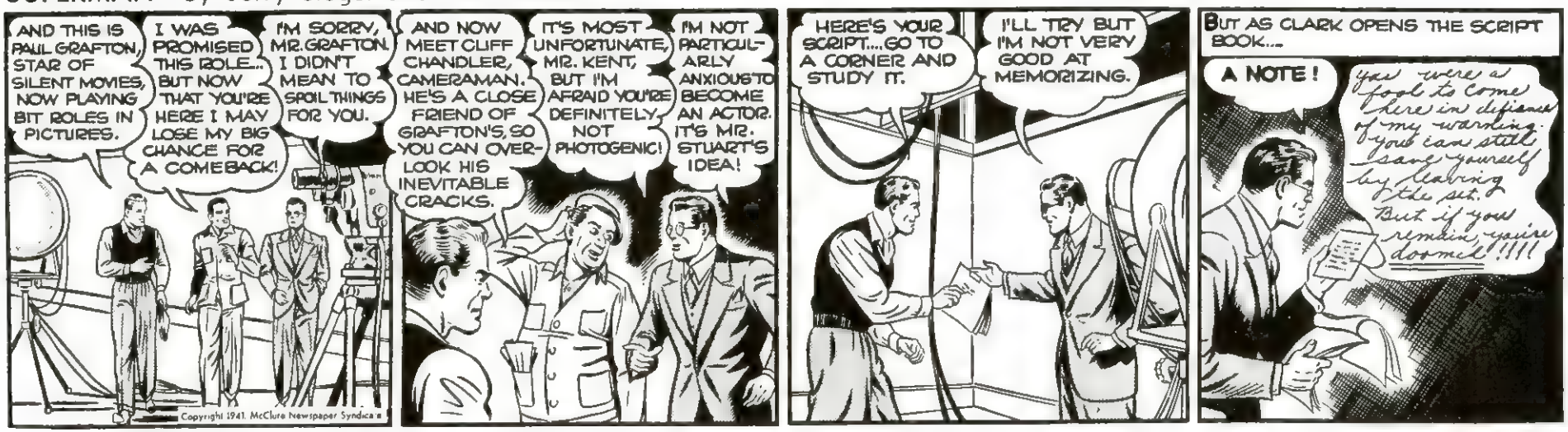
Fan Mail



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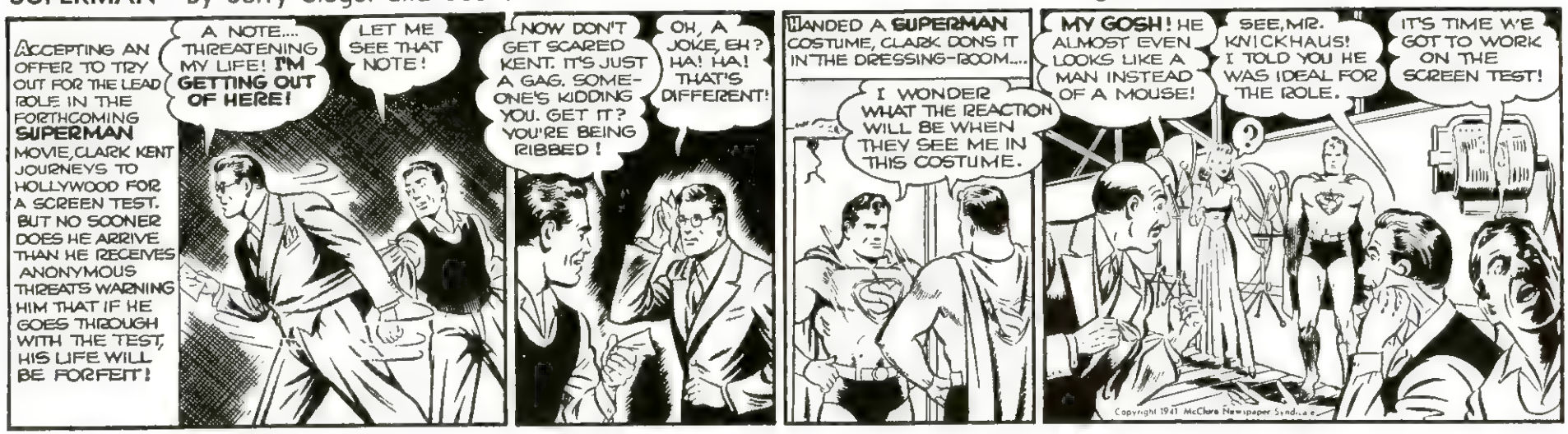
Slight Resemblance.



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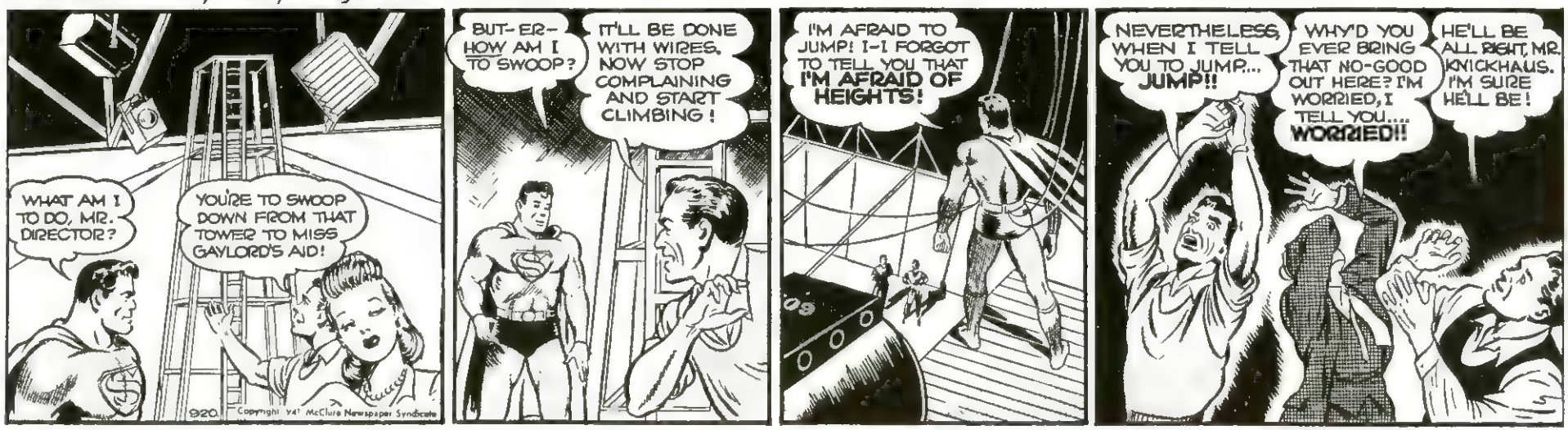
It's All Done With Wires.



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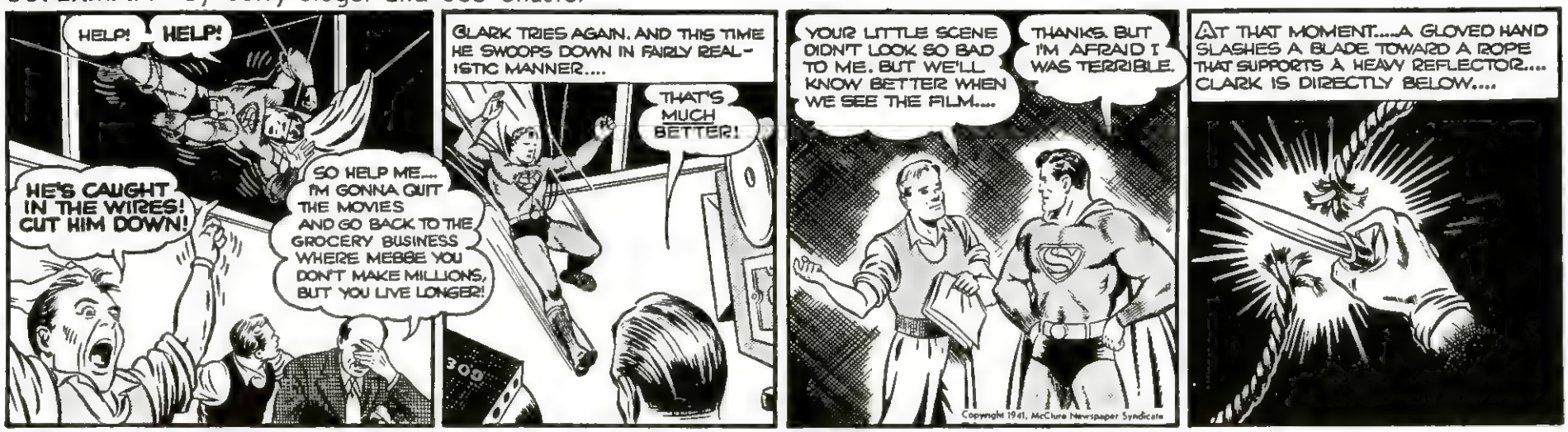
Suspended Action.

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

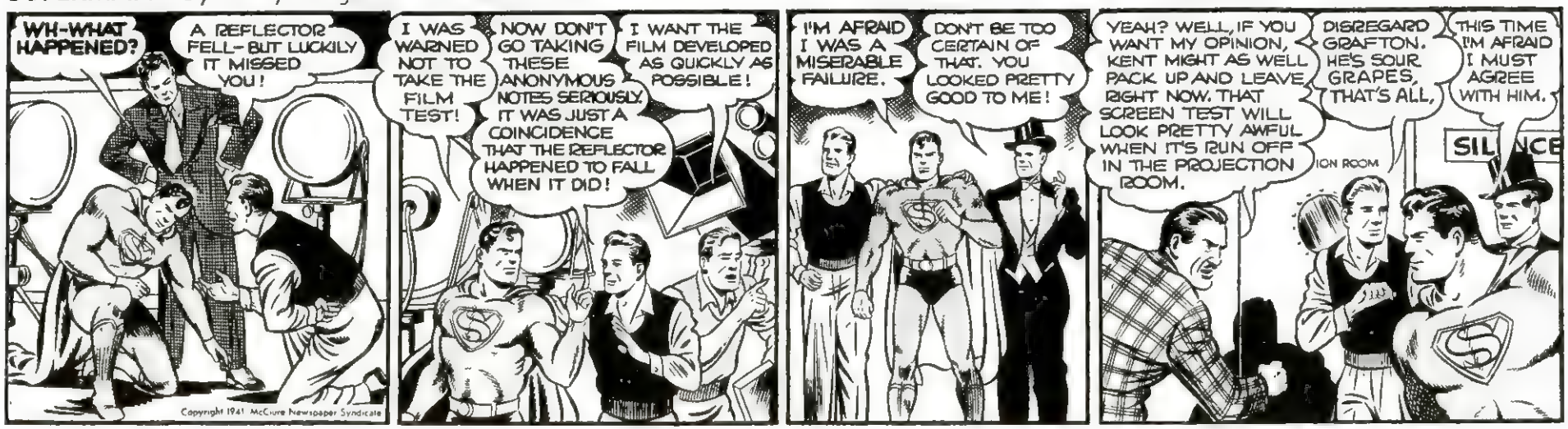


SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

What a Hero!

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Perfect Agreement



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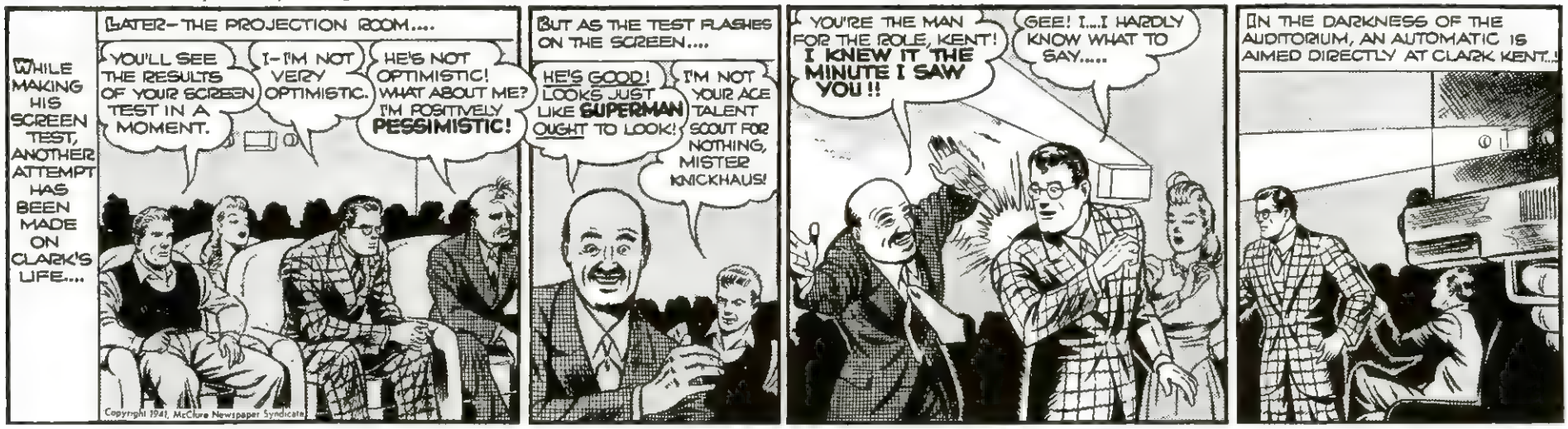
Talent Scout



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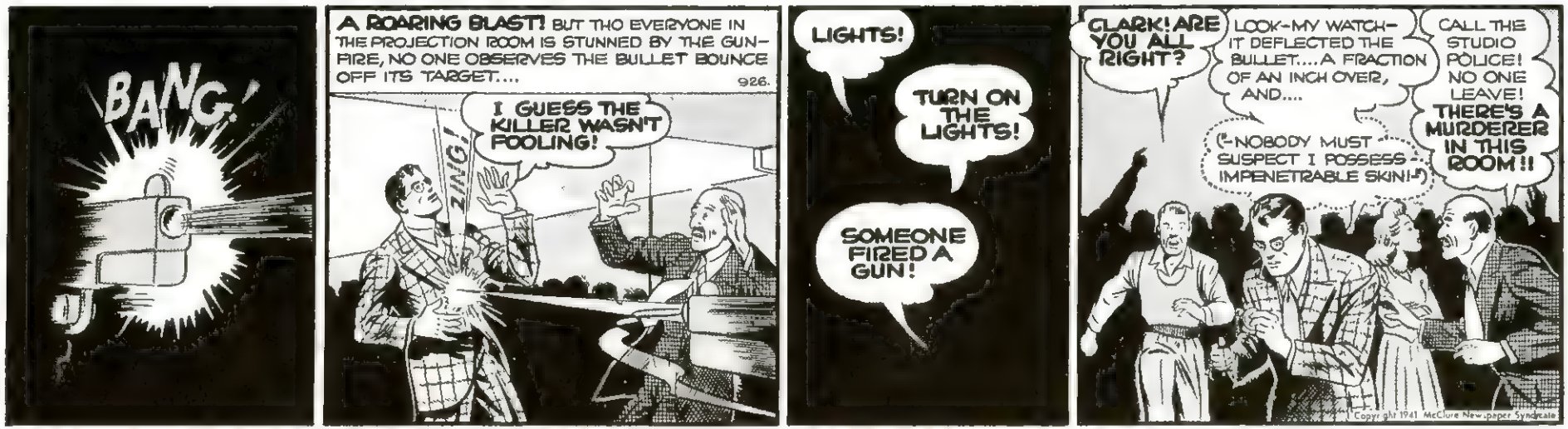
Lock the Doors!



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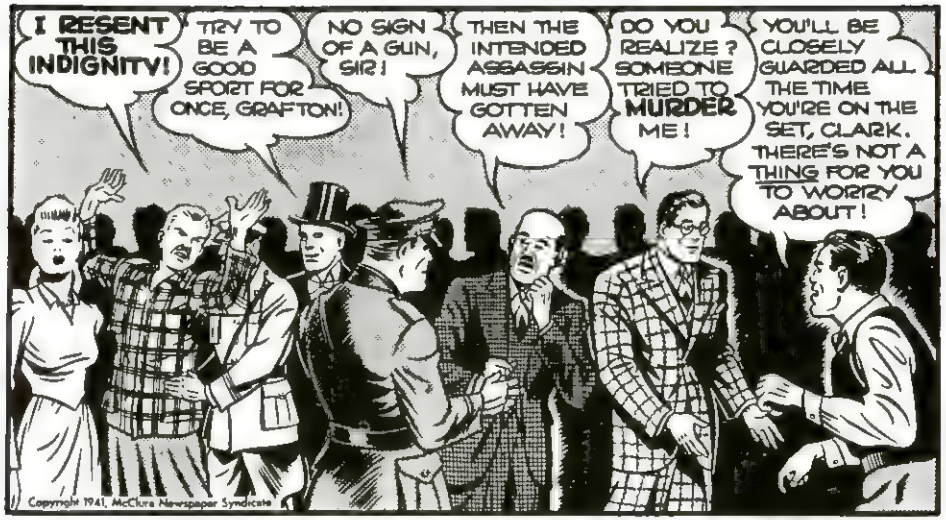
Uninvited Guest



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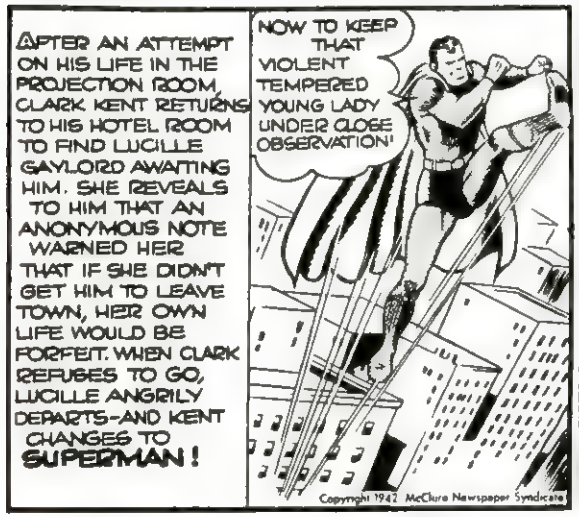
Either You or I

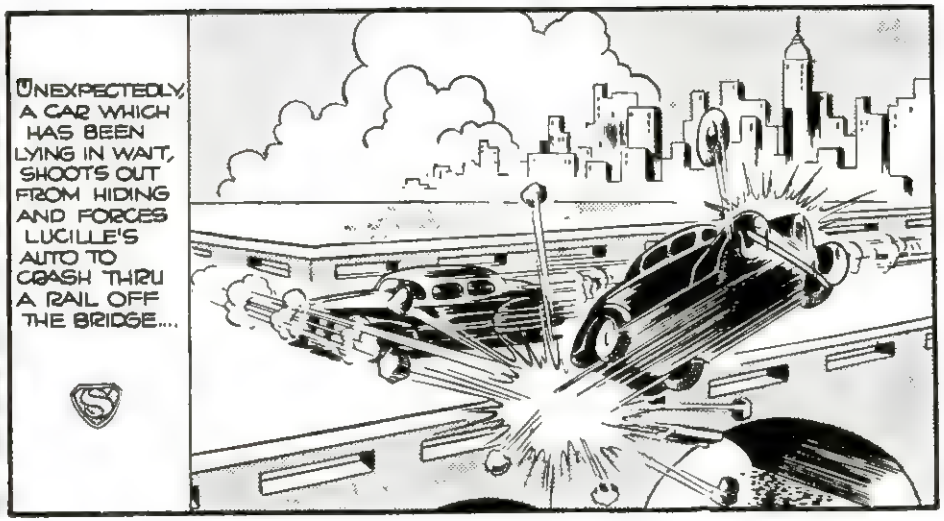
SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

No Co-operation

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

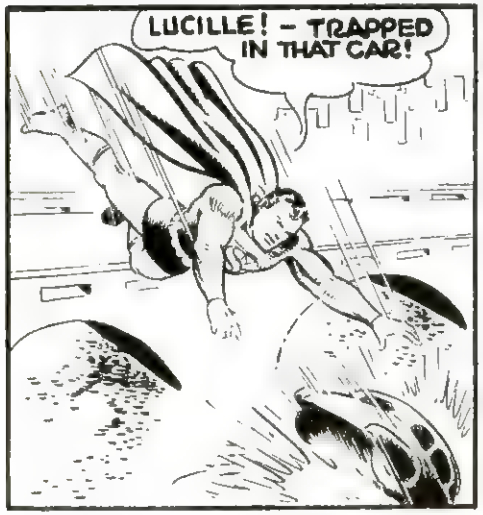
Road Hog





SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman Present



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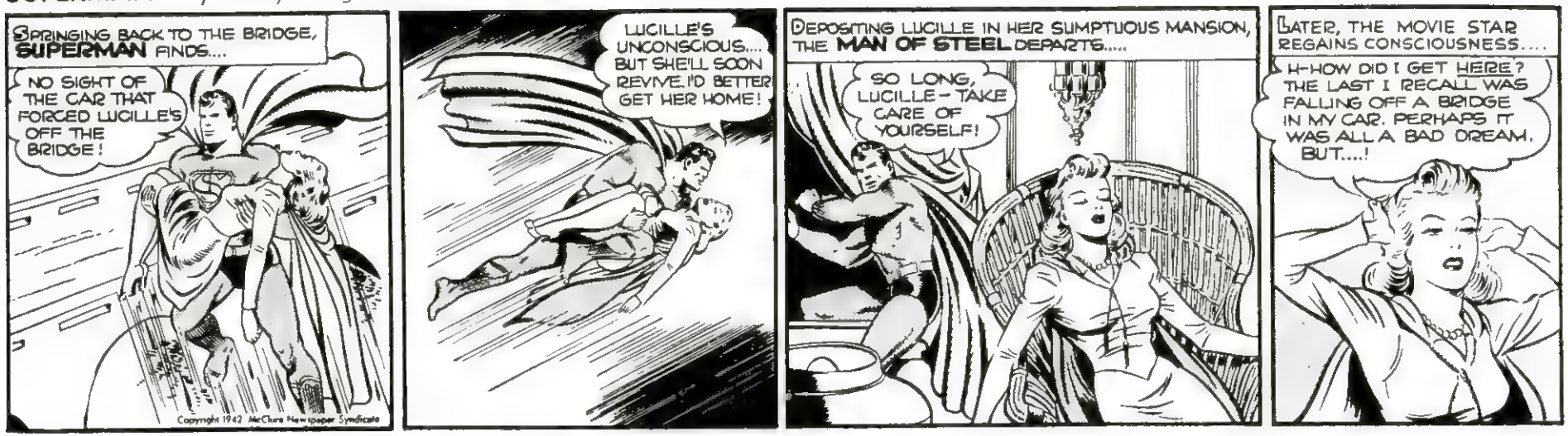
Was It a Dream?



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Movie Magic

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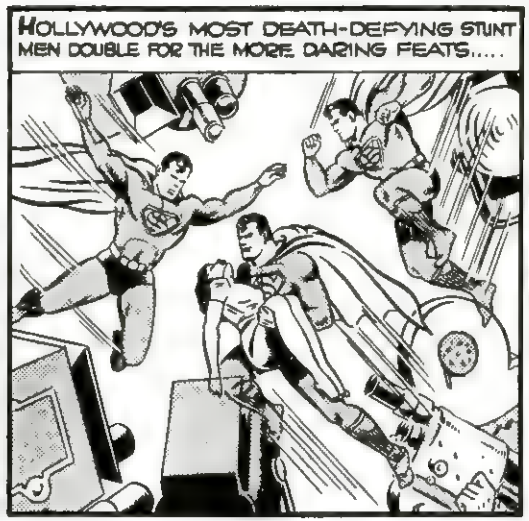
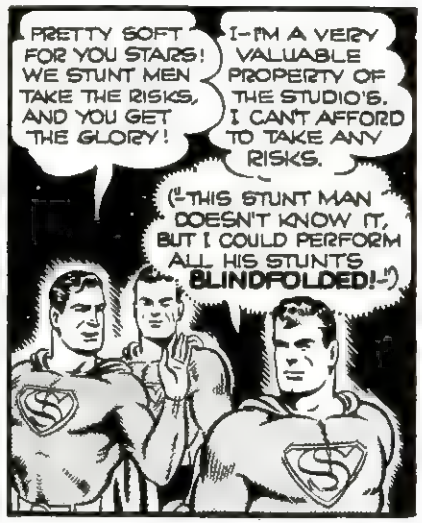
Soft Job





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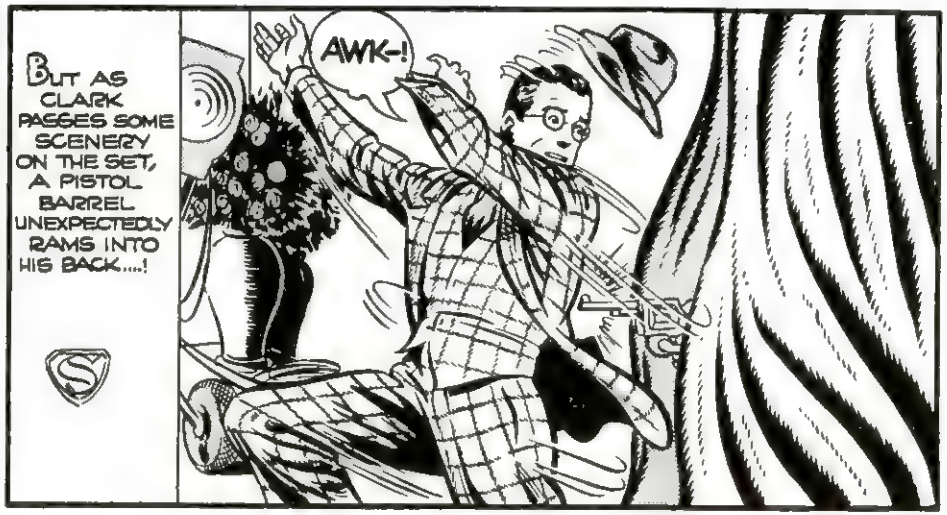
He's Ticklish



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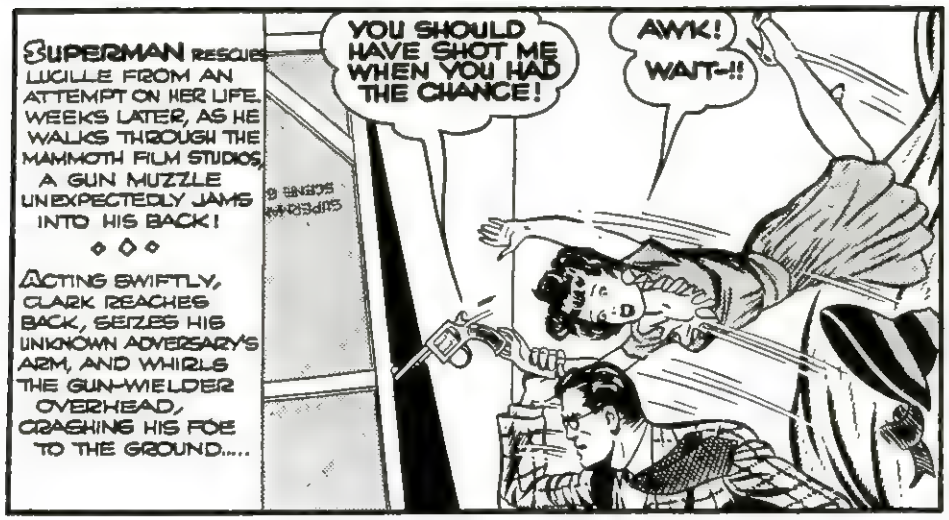
Welcome!



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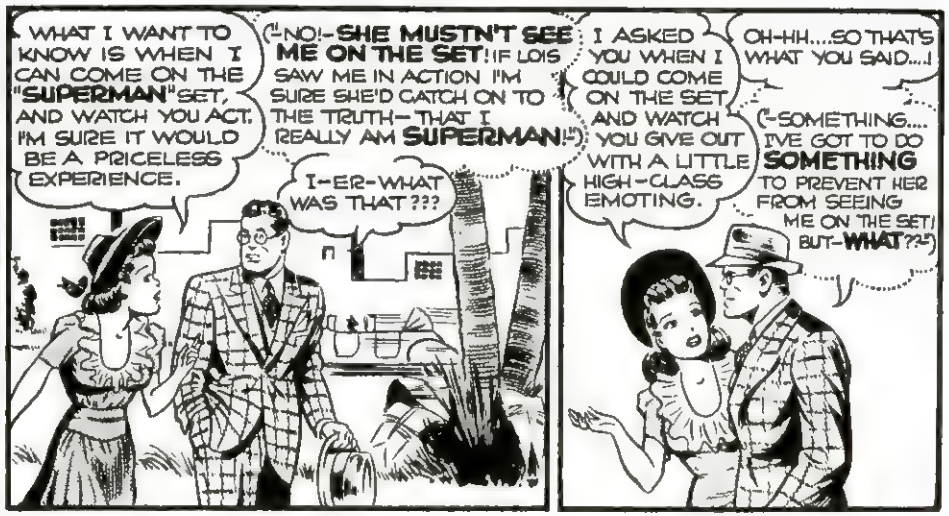
Think Fast, Mr. Clark!



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Hollywood Head

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Three's a Crowd

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Stepping Out Handsomely

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Insistent Invitation

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Beautiful Berating

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

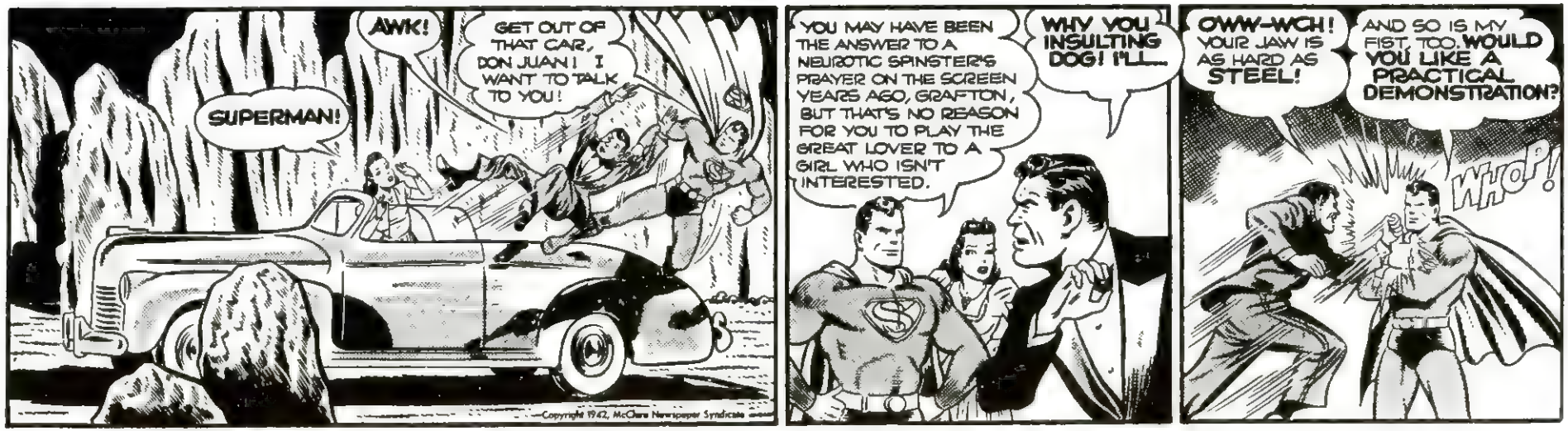
Alone

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Danger: Cad at Work

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

"Futile Gesture



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A Needed Lesson

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Trouble Shooter

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Surprise Party

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Who's Who

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Pitcher and Catcher

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

He's a Professional

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

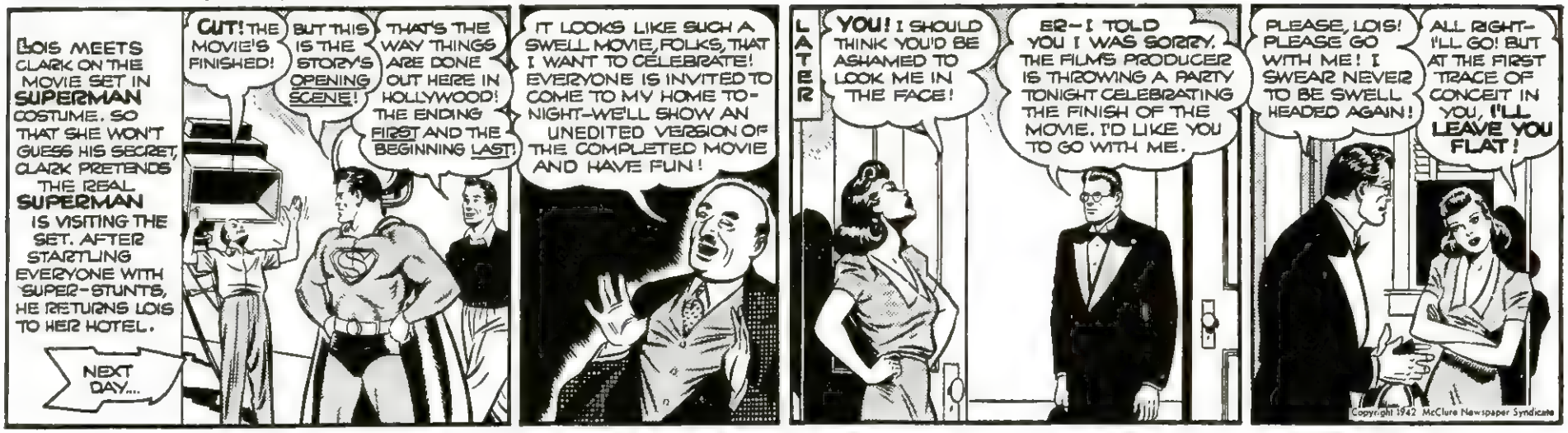
Signing Off

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Blurs, Sirs

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Promise and Threat



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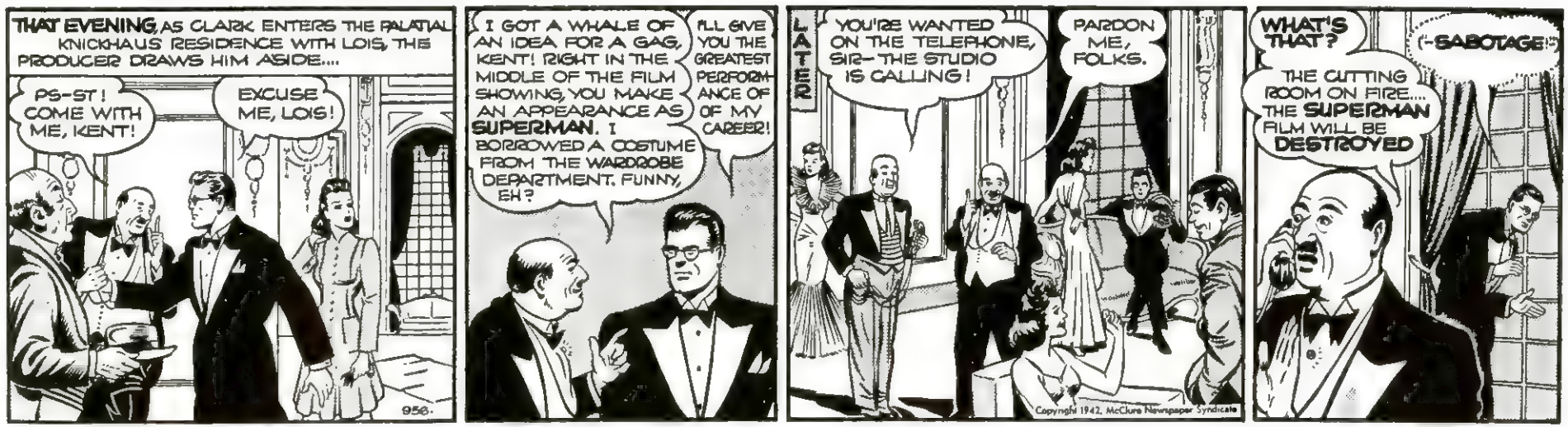
Sabotage!



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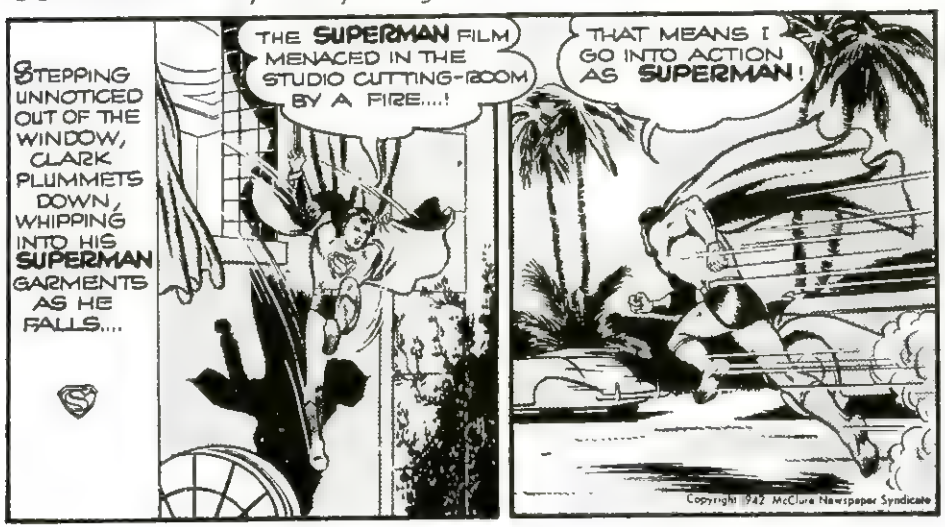
No Cause for Alarm



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Short and Sweet

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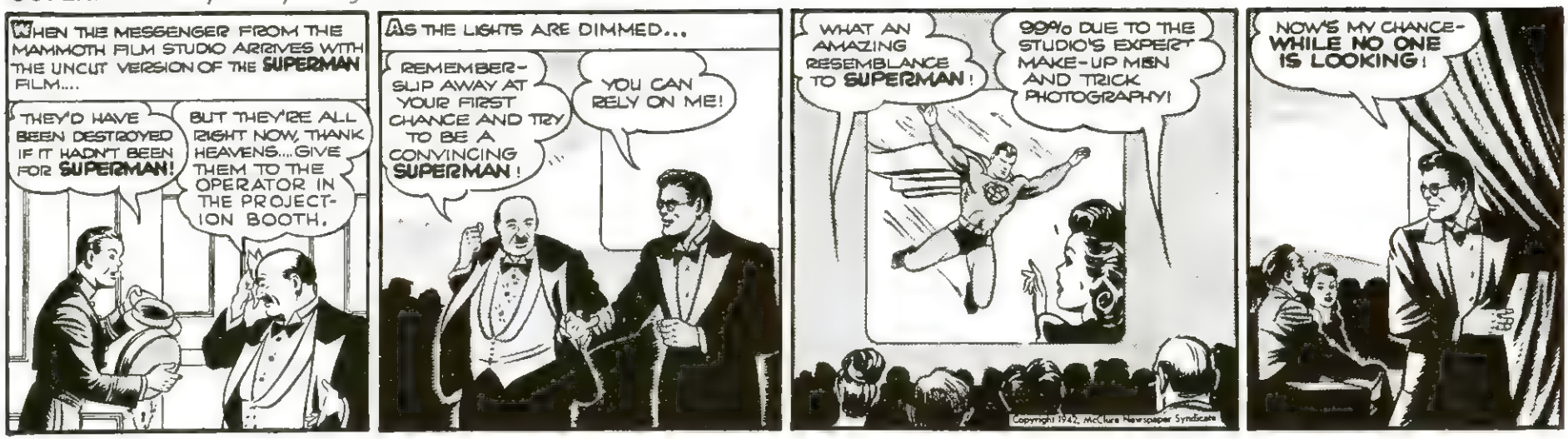
It's No Joke



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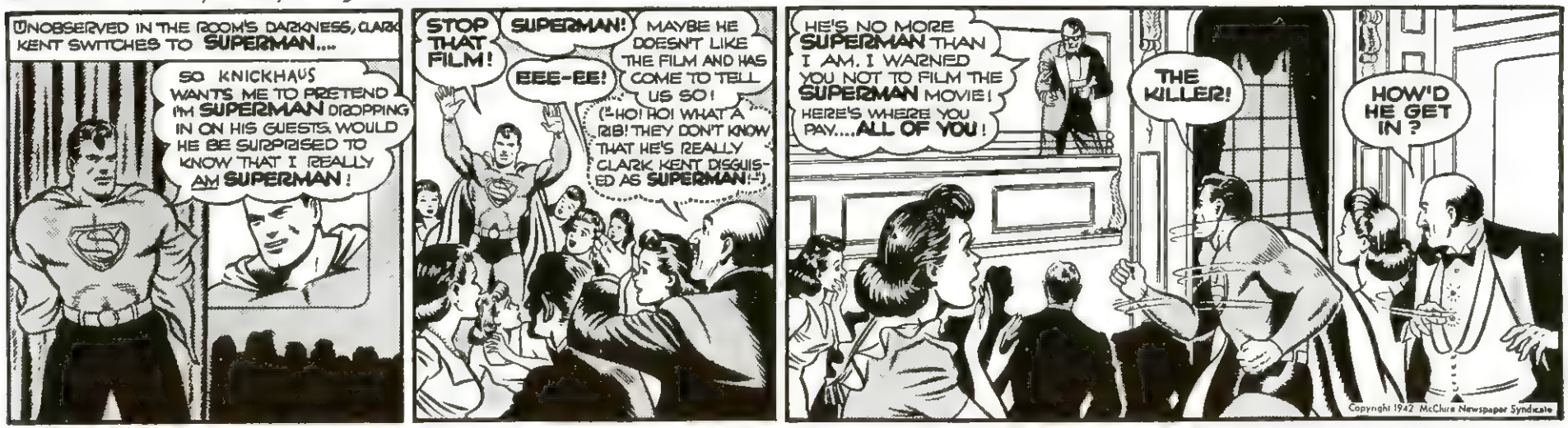
The Pay-Off



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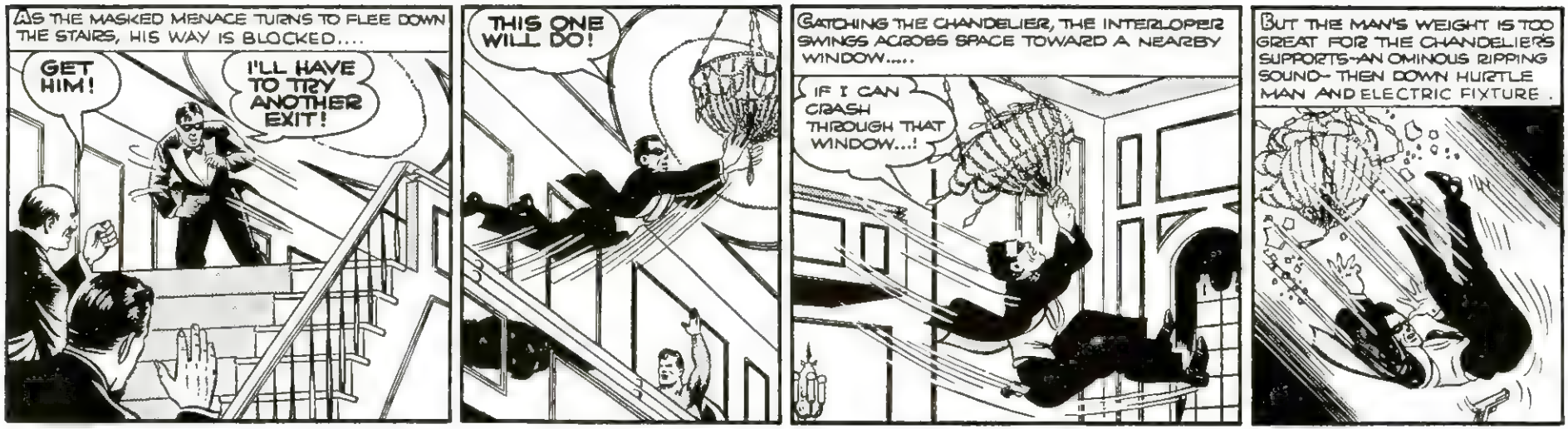
Suspense

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

He Gets Around

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Foiled



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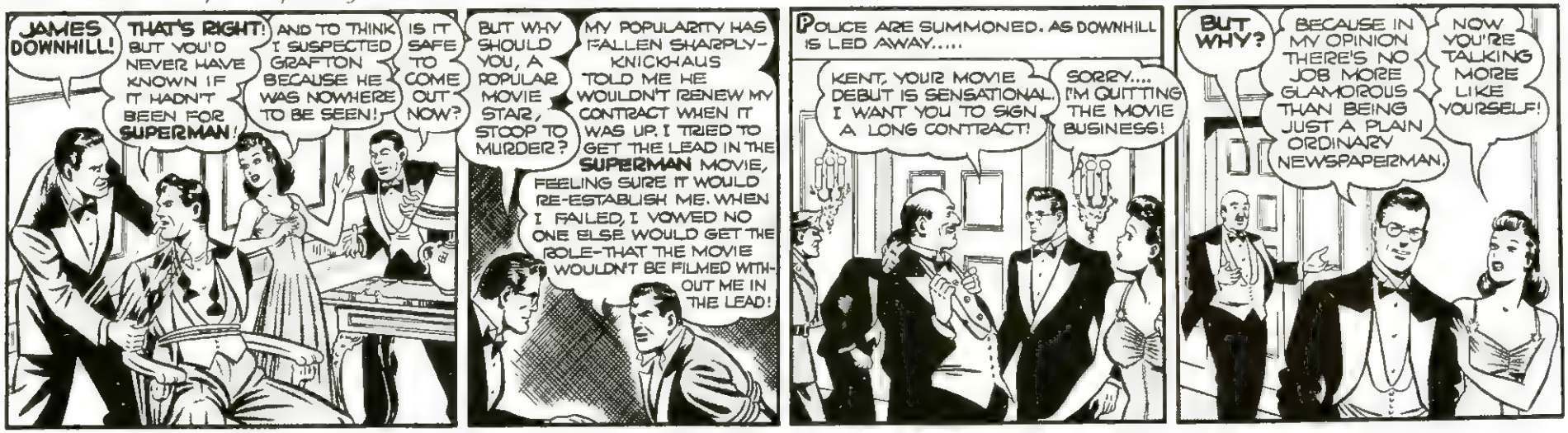
Captured

SUPERMAN—By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Confession



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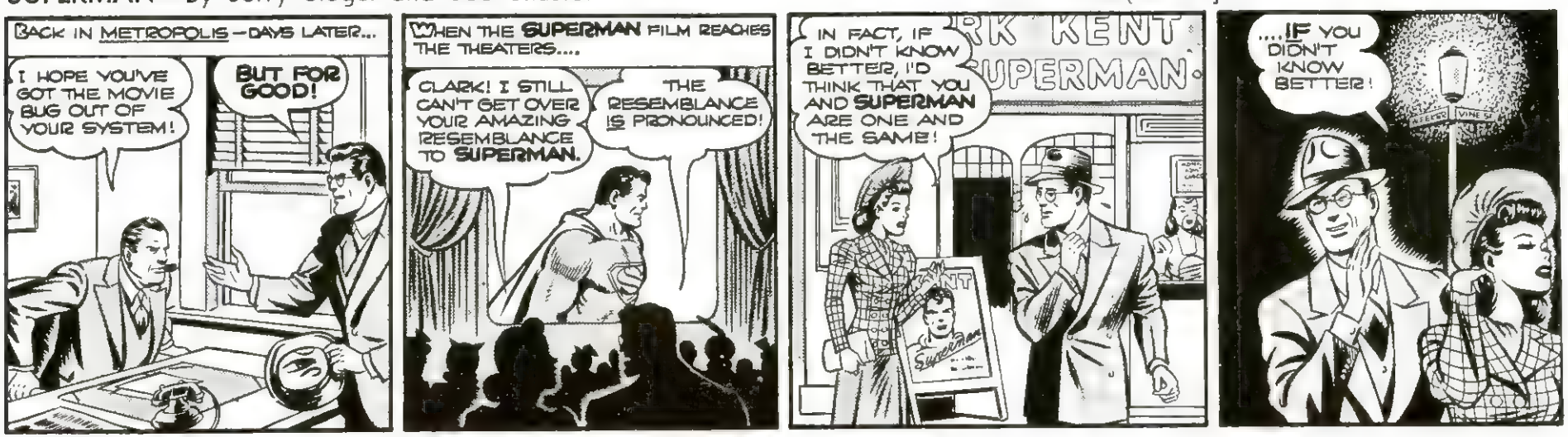
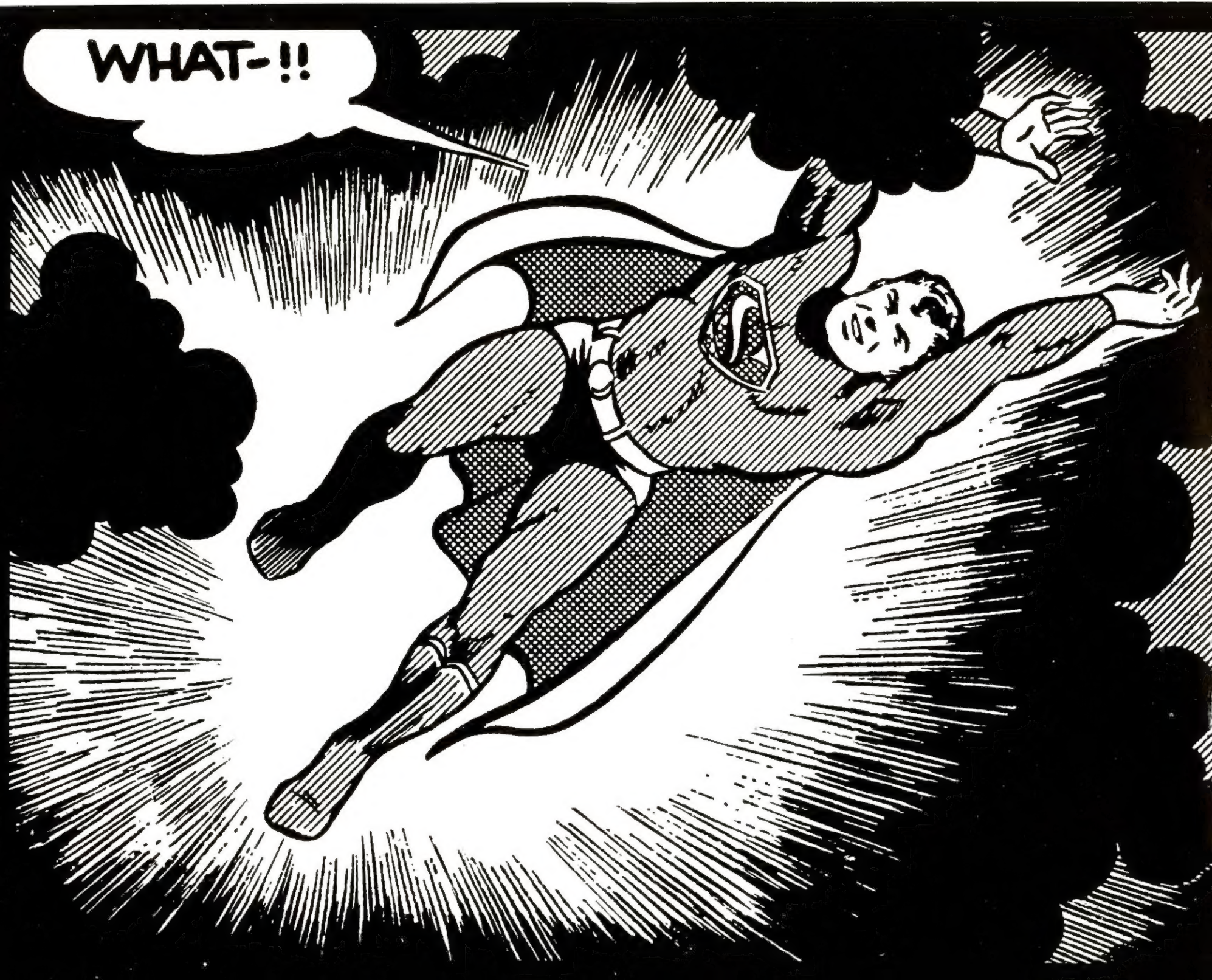
Back on the Job.




WHAT-!!

JERRY SIEGEL

Born 1914 in Cleveland, Ohio, Jerome Siegel was, as a teenager, a fan of the emerging literary genre that came to be known as science fiction. Together with schoolmate Joe Shuster, Siegel published several science-fiction fan magazines and, in 1933, they came up with their own science-fiction hero—Superman. Siegel scripted and Shuster drew several weeks' worth of newspaper strips featuring their new creation but garnered no interest from publishers or newspaper syndicates. It wasn't until the two established themselves as reliable adventure-strip creators at DC Comics that the editors at DC offered to take a chance on the Superman material—provided it was re-pasted into comic-book format for DC's new magazine, ACTION COMICS.

Siegel wrote the adventures of Superman (as well as other DC heroes, most notably the Spectre, his co-creation with Bernard Baily) through 1948 and then again from 1959-1966, in the interim scripting several newspaper strips including *Funnyman* and *Ken Winston*. Jerry Siegel died in January, 1996.

JOE SHUSTER

Joseph Shuster was born in 1914 in Toronto, Canada. When he was nine, his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where Shuster met young Jerry Siegel. The two became fast friends and collaborators; together, they published the earliest science-fiction fan magazines, where Shuster honed his fledgling art skills. In 1936, he and Siegel began providing DC Comics with such new features as Dr. Occult, Slam Bradley, and Radio Squad before selling Superman to DC in 1938.

Influenced by such comic-strip greats as *Wash Tubbs'* Roy Crane, Joe Shuster drew Superman through 1947, after which he left comic books to create the comic strip *Funnyman*, again with Siegel. Failing eyesight cut short his career, but not before his place in the history of American culture was assured. Shuster died of heart failure on July 30, 1992.

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